

Iraqi president shows no willingness to negotiate and renews call for a holy war against US

Arabs urged to topple Fahd and Mubarak

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday turned against his former allies with a call for Arabs and Muslims to topple King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and President Mubarak of Egypt.

Showing no indication that he was willing to negotiate a peaceful end to the confrontation in the Gulf, he renewed his call for a holy war against America. Five million Iraqis were ready to fight and were sure of victory if America attacked.

Iraqi children were dying as a result of the UN trade embargo aimed at forcing him out of the Gulf. "They are starving a whole people to death," he said. The Arab masses, particularly the dispossessed, should rise up against their corrupt rulers who were being "manipulated by the devil". Singling out King Fahd and Mr Mubarak, he said: "We call on them (the people) to revolt against their rulers and traitors."

In his last speech a week ago, President Saddam had appealed to Mr Mubarak in respectful terms to help him to confront Saudi Arabia. The change of tack showed he was running out of options, while at the same time was unwilling to make any concessions to the international community.

Yesterday's speech, read on Baghdad television by a spokesman, came as the Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, flew to Moscow for talks with President Gorbachev, and as King Hussein of Jordan arrived in Baghdad. Both mis-

sions were designed to try to find a regional solution before the US-Soviet summit on Sunday, but President Saddam's remarks suggested they had little chance of success.

He said Israel had driven America to act against Iraq and declared: "This is a war between right and wrong."

ON OTHER PAGES

World pressure... Page 8
Middle East... Page 9
Article 51, and Michael Howard... Page 10
Leading article and Letters... Page 11
Oil warning... Page 25

British hostage accuses embassy

The Foreign Office and the British embassy in Kuwait are accused of complicity and inefficiency in a letter to *The Times* today from a British woman interned by the Iraqis after attempting to escape from Kuwait. Kirsty Norman says the embassy was advising Britons to remain in their homes when they knew escape was possible.

Victory is very near. Five million volunteers were ready to boost the million-strong Iraqi army. "If the invaders want to attack, they need at least 12 million soldiers. They will be disastrously defeated, their dens in the region will be wiped out if they dare a military challenge."

"The air forces will not carry out a battle in this land, despite its technology." Like the people of Vietnam, the Iraqis were strong-willed and would "teach the footprints of the Americans from Saudi Arabia and the whole region".

In a speech laced with recitations from the Koran, President Saddam vowed to liberate Jerusalem from Israeli rule, and he praised the "Palestinians of the intifada, the people of the stones who are fighting the Zionists in their own lands."

Surprisingly, President Saddam made no direct reference to the American secretary of state, James Baker, who on Tuesday told Congress that American forces might remain in the Middle East after the crisis as part of a new regional security order. That suggestion was, however, the subject of harsh criticism in the Iraqi media earlier in the day when the state-run news agency said

it confirmed suspicions that the deployment of American forces in Saudi Arabia was "part of a pre-meditated conspiracy to control Arab oil and to occupy the Arab and Islamic holy places".

Mr Baker yesterday again floated the idea of a Middle East regional security structure to contain Iraq once its troops were ousted from Kuwait. In appearances before the House and Senate foreign affairs committees over the past two days, Mr Baker gave only an outline of his thinking, but suggested that such a security structure would involve "major Arab participation" backed by a long-term American military presence in the region, probably naval.

It would seek a new equilibrium and balance of power in the region and would involve a continued international arms embargo against Iraq and the strengthening of the military forces of moderate Arab nations.

Britain is believed to be in general agreement with the United States on the probable need to retain at least some forces in the region after an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, depending on Gulf states asking them to stay.

Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, is understood to have noted a change of mood during his tour of nine Middle East cities, where it had previously been assumed that Western forces would never again be welcome in the Middle East.

Meanwhile, the search for a diplomatic solution continued with the arrival of Tariq Aziz in Moscow, the second visit by a senior Iraqi official since the invasion of Kuwait.

Mr Aziz was expected to stay for only a few hours and was likely to get a frosty reception. Soviet officials have signalled increasing exasperation with Baghdad and the Tass news agency left little doubt that Mr Gorbachev would take a firm line.

Tass said senior foreign ministry officials "have repeatedly stated that Moscow favours the exhaustive use of political means to settle the crisis in the Gulf, caused by Iraq's unprovoked invasion of Kuwait". The Soviet Union wanted to maintain permanent diplomatic contact with Iraqi leaders, but until now, contacts with Baghdad had not produced the desired result. The phrasing of the report suggested that Moscow would decline further discussion if Iraq showed no sign of movement.



Fight for water: two desperate refugees struggle over a bottle of water in a camp on the Iraqi border as they await clearance to enter Jordan

Heath a threat to Commons unity

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE House of Commons returns today, for the first time during a recess since 1982, for a showdown debate intended by the government and Opposition to demonstrate the wide support in Britain for defeating President Saddam Hussein and securing Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait.

The mood of unity could be threatened however by dissenting voices in both main political parties. It emerged last night that Edward Heath, the former prime minister, is preparing to intervene in the debate to sound a warning against early military action in the Gulf.

Mr Heath, according to friends, is concerned about the hawkish noises coming from the Pentagon and some American politicians, and will argue that the diplomatic channels should be exhausted before war is contemplated. A group of Labour MPs led by Tony Benn are to take their misgivings to a vote tomorrow at the end of the two-day debate.

Neil Kinnock, in one of the most important speeches of his Labour leadership, is expected to offer full support for the action taken so far by the government in response to Iraqi aggression. He will do so in a manner intended to underline there is no imminent threat to the bipartisanship that has characterised the political approach in Britain to the invasion.

Sources close to the Labour leader emphasised yesterday that Mr Kinnock believes a peaceful outcome is possible if the world community continues to act together to defeat President Hussein. Mr Kinnock will again stress as he did in his TUC speech that if force is necessary to defeat the Iraqi leader it should be force supported by the international community. About two-thirds of MPs are expected to attend the debate.

International miners block Scargill money

By KEVIN EASON

THE National Union of Mineworkers could be forced into a long, bitter legal battle to reclaim more than £1 million in missing donations held in foreign bank accounts and settle the future of its president, Arthur Scargill.

Only 24 hours after the NUM president was cleared of misappropriating funds, the union was thrown into further turmoil when Alain Simon, secretary-general of the international Mineworkers' Organisation (IMO), refused to hand over the money. M Simon would not accept the findings of the NUM enquiry that money collected by Soviet miners and held in the international miners' Paris account was intended to

ease the hardship of British miners during the 1984-85 national pit strike. It now seems likely that the NUM will have to go to court to retrieve the money, paving the way for a damaging internal conflict which will determine whether Mr Scargill can continue as the union's president. Officers from the fraud squad will today interview four Soviet miners at Scotland Yard, who are demanding to know why their collections went to the international organisation and not to the NUM strike funds.

Sergei Kozlov, leading the delegation from the Soviet Democratic Labour Movement, said yesterday: "These people who collected the money over the years, the people who handed the money over to us, and the people who received it, we worked our days off to raise this money and if these resources were collected are not used for what they were intended, then there will be serious anger and bitterness among the Soviet mining community, especially as this means that these resources were gathered by lying to us," he said.

Mr Scargill and Peter Heathfield, the NUM general secretary, were due to fly to Paris with the investigation team on Monday to arrange the transfer of the £1 million from the French account to

Union offer to Labour

By TIM JONES

TRADE union leaders called yesterday on the next Labour government to offer them a prominent role in discussing the nation's economic prospects in return for relief from damaging pay bargaining disputes.

The unions also stated their willingness to avoid raising the inflation rate by wage claims in a move that could pave the way for a formal procedure in which the government, employers and

unions would act as social partners.

The plans were received cautiously, however, by the CBI, which spoke against a return to corporatism, and by John Smith, shadow chancellor, who feared that the scheme might not be practical, particularly if employers would not participate. He welcomed the broad proposals, however.

There have been tobacco riots in both Moscow and Leningrad in the past two weeks in protest against shortages of cigarettes.

Congress reports, page 6

Alternate cancer cure puzzle

By JILL SHERMAN

DOCTORS were last night mystified by a study which showed that breast cancer patients were less likely to survive if they had alternative therapy as well as orthodox treatment, rather than conventional medicine alone.

The study shows that women attending the Bristol Cancer Help Centre, which offers counselling, meditation and a special diet, were nearly three times more likely to relapse than those getting conventional treatment at NHS hospitals. The findings are certain to reopen the debate on the benefits of alternative medicine.

Neither the centre nor the Institute of Cancer Research, which carried out the study, could offer any explanation for the "surprising" results, although they suggested that psychological factors or the centre's stringent diet could have played a part.

Advert dispute, page 2

Details, page 3

Teacher for every class

A huge recruiting drive has enabled schools throughout the country to start the term with a teacher in front of every class, local education authorities reported yesterday.

The only reported cases of children being sent home because of teacher shortages were in Hackney, east London, where more than 100 children were turned away.

Cambodia talks

The United States is to begin direct talks for the first time with the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia, James Baker, US Secretary of State, said yesterday. He said he had been encouraged by the acceptance by the Hun Sen government of the UN plan to end civil war.

Caradon dies

Lord Caradon, who as Sir Hugh Foot was governor of the island of Cyprus at the time it came to independence, died yesterday. Throughout his career he was a great orator and campaigner for minority rights. He was made a life peer in 1964 and continued to speak in the House of Lords until shortly before his death.

Atom approval

Controversial plans to build Britain's next nuclear power station at Hinkley Point in Somerset have been approved by a public enquiry. Mr John Wakeham, the energy secretary, will announce today.

Degree courses

A list of vacancies for British degree courses in physical sciences, medicine, dentistry and biological sciences is published today. Vacancies in modern languages, engineering technology and mathematics will be published tomorrow.

INDEX

Arts...	21
Births, marriages, deaths...	13
Court & Social...	12
Crosswords...	13-20
Law Report...	28
Leading articles...	11
Letters...	12
Obituary...	14-15
Science & Technology...	14-15
Sport...	24-25
TV & Radio...	23
Weather...	24

OS

Few crumbs of comfort for deprived Moscow

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY
IN MOSCOW

BREAD, almost the only food for which Muscovites have not had to queue in recent weeks, has vanished from nearly a quarter of the capital's shops and the city council has placed bakeries on a virtual war footing. Troops have been sent to work in state bakeries which are short of manpower and mobile bakeries have been requisitioned from the army for areas where the local factory is out of commission or cannot cope.

Gavril Popov, the mayor of Moscow, and Yuri Luzhkov, the chairman of the city's executive council, have assured the public that the shortage is "local and temporary", but the population is unconvinced.

"If there is no bread, that is the end," would-be customers said yesterday.

"We're used to shortages of everything, but bread... that's the staple."

Grounds for believing that the shortage is here to stay came in a directive from President Gorbachev to all republican and local authorities on Tuesday. He expressed "serious concern" about delays in supplies of grain and accused grain-producing areas of withholding deliveries.

Although this year's grain harvest is expected to be a record for recent years, possibly reaching 260 million tonnes, most areas are experiencing acute difficulties in harvesting, due to too few workers, too few combines, too little fuel, inadequate storage and too few lorries to transport the crop. Before the president's directive, the media had avoided suggesting that grain was being withheld, presumably to prevent the idea spreading. If there

is only a limited response to the directive, the central government has the option of compulsory requisition or letting go of one of its chief levers of central economic control.

Mr Popov said during his weekly appearance on television that Moscow faced no problem with grain or with flour. The bread problem began at the bakeries. By the end of August their capacity was stretched to the limit, as it was every year, because of the return of families to Moscow at the end of the summer holidays. This year, the situation had been aggravated by bad weather, by a severe labour shortage at the bakeries and by the lack of anything else to eat.

As with the tobacco shortage, which has eased a little with the introduction of rationing in Moscow at the weekend, Mr Popov said the main problem was the obsolescence and

poor state of repair of the plants. The Moscow bakeries were 30 years old but there was no money to refit them.

A common view is that the spate of shortages — fruit and vegetables, meat, alcohol, sugar, cigarettes and now bread — is the result of "sabotage" by political conservatives trying to hold on to their power or by organized crime syndicates referred to as "mafia". The KGB has an interest in encouraging the second view.

● LONDON: BAT Industries, the UK tobacco company, has given a quotation to supply cigarettes to the Soviet Union in response to a Soviet request (Our City Staff writes).

There have been tobacco riots in both Moscow and Leningrad in the past two weeks in protest against shortages of cigarettes.

BAT profits reduced, page 25

OXFORD
OPEN
MBA

The new distance learning opportunity for the manager of the 90s

Oxford Polytechnic and Wolsey Hall now jointly offer an MBA designed for today. Devised and written by distance learning specialists, the Oxford Open MBA highlights the management and business skills you need to succeed in the fast-changing world of the 90s.

The Oxford Open MBA is a practical course, based on continuous assessment and on project work with your company. It's a fresh approach to management education, and it's an excellent way to enhance your career — without interrupting it.

If you have a good first degree and relevant business experience, why not contact us now to receive your copy of the Oxford Open MBA Prospectus. Either complete and send the coupon using our FREEPOST address or

PHONE US ON 0865 310310 (Lines staffed every day except Saturday between 9am and 5pm) or phone our 24-hour answerphone on 0865 58117.

oxford
polytechnic

LEARN MORE TODAY

Please send me full details of the Oxford Open MBA.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone No: _____

Send to Oxford Open MBA Office, FREEPOST, 66 Banbury Road, Oxford

OX2 6BR or fax your enquiry to 0865 510999

A01

Black offenders 'are treated more leniently by magistrates'



John Hosking: "We just cannot win over this"

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

OFFENDERS from ethnic minorities are receiving more lenient treatment from magistrates both in the courts and when sentence is imposed, according to a report published today.

A pilot study of four magistrates' courts in London and a sample of nearly 2,000 black and white defendants by the Runnymede Trust dispels any notion that magistrates make greater use of imprisonment for black compared with white defendants. If anything, it says, the reverse is true.

The report says, however, that there is more frequent use of so-called supervisory sentences, such as probation orders and commu-

nity service orders against Afro-Caribbean defendants than white defendants. "In the process of sentencing and at the point of sentencing there is sufficient evidence to support the case that unequal and unfavourable treatment of black defendants exists."

John Hosking, chairman of the Magistrates' Association, has responded to the findings with disbelief. "It seems as if we cannot win over this. When we sent more blacks to custody than were represented proportionately in the population we were criticised; now they say we are giving more of them probation and community service orders and still we are criticised."

Racial awareness was now a part

of the curriculum for training every newly appointed magistrate, he said, and existing magistrates attended courses and seminars on the subject if they were from a part of the country where this was appropriate.

"We cannot take into account a defendant's skin colour in trying to do justice; that would not be in accordance with our oath. But we can take account of ethnic background, where it is appropriate. That is a different issue."

Bunni Alemoru, a barrister and spokesman for the Society of Black Lawyers, which is pressing for all judicial training to include anti-racism, said yesterday that the findings came as little surprise. "The problem is acute and getting

worse and needs urgent action. All that racial awareness means is telling magistrates about sari and dreadlocks. What we want is something that addresses their own racist attitudes."

The report found that a higher proportion of Afro-Caribbean defendants than whites were remanded in custody before appearing in court. In addition, Afro-Caribbean defendants who were granted bail had conditions imposed on their movements more often, and if they pleaded guilty they were more likely to be recommended for social enquiry reports. They were also more likely to be given supervisory sentences than white defendants.

Other main findings were that

black defendants pleading guilty generally had fewer convictions and were less often in breach of a previous sentence than white defendants. Black defendants in the study appeared to show little confidence in their ability to obtain justice in magistrates' courts. Nearly a half of the Afro-Caribbean defendants in the sample chose instead to be tried before a judge and jury, compared with a third of Asian defendants and less than a third of white defendants.

A leading prison psychologist also attacked the prison service and the Home Office yesterday for having no understanding of the therapy needs of the 2,700 sex offenders in jails in England and Wales (Quentin Cowdry writes).

Instead of responding to legitimate public concern by launching a properly funded therapy programme, officials had resorted to issuing statements which created the impression that they had a "grip on the problem". Roland Woodward, principal psychologist at Grendon Prison in Buckinghamshire, said. Reforming sex offenders was a costly exercise, involving the use of highly trained specialists for prolonged periods, liaison with outside agencies and joint working with relations and partners.

Black people, white justice? Race and the criminal justice system (Runnymede Trust, 11 Princes Street, London E1 6QH, £2.50 plus 40p postage)

Recruitment drive fills most vacant teaching jobs

By JOHN O'LEARY AND DANIEL TREISMAN

LOCAL education authorities throughout the country reported yesterday that a huge recruiting drive had enabled them to start the school year with a teacher in front of every class.

The only reported cases of children being sent home because of teacher shortages were in Hackney, east London, where more than 100 children at two primary schools were turned away. The borough is hoping to arrange cover for the children at the Labourium and Sobright infants schools so that they can attend classes today.

Labour estimated on Monday that there would be 6,500 vacancies in state schools at the start of term, leaving 130,000 pupils without a permanent qualified teacher. The education department is conducting its own survey this week.

The Hackney education authority has been one of the worst affected by teacher shortages. Although recruitment was being carried out right up until the start of term, there were still 30 vacancies yesterday. Nine staff were required in primary schools, 16 in secondary and five in special schools.

Elsewhere in London, where vacancies have been running well above the national average, authorities reported that schools were fully staffed, although temporary teachers had been used in some cases.

Timothy Eggar, the education minister, toured schools in Westminster and Tower Hamlets yesterday, which were among the areas worst affected by shortages last year. During his visit to the Cyril Jackson school in Tower Hamlets, he complimented the 13 new London education authorities on their success in recruiting teachers and accused the old Inner London Education Authority (IlEA) of not dealing effectively

with its teacher supply problems. "We have abolished the IlEA and I am convinced that the improvement at schools like this is a sign of the benefits of having 13 smaller and more local education authorities," he said.

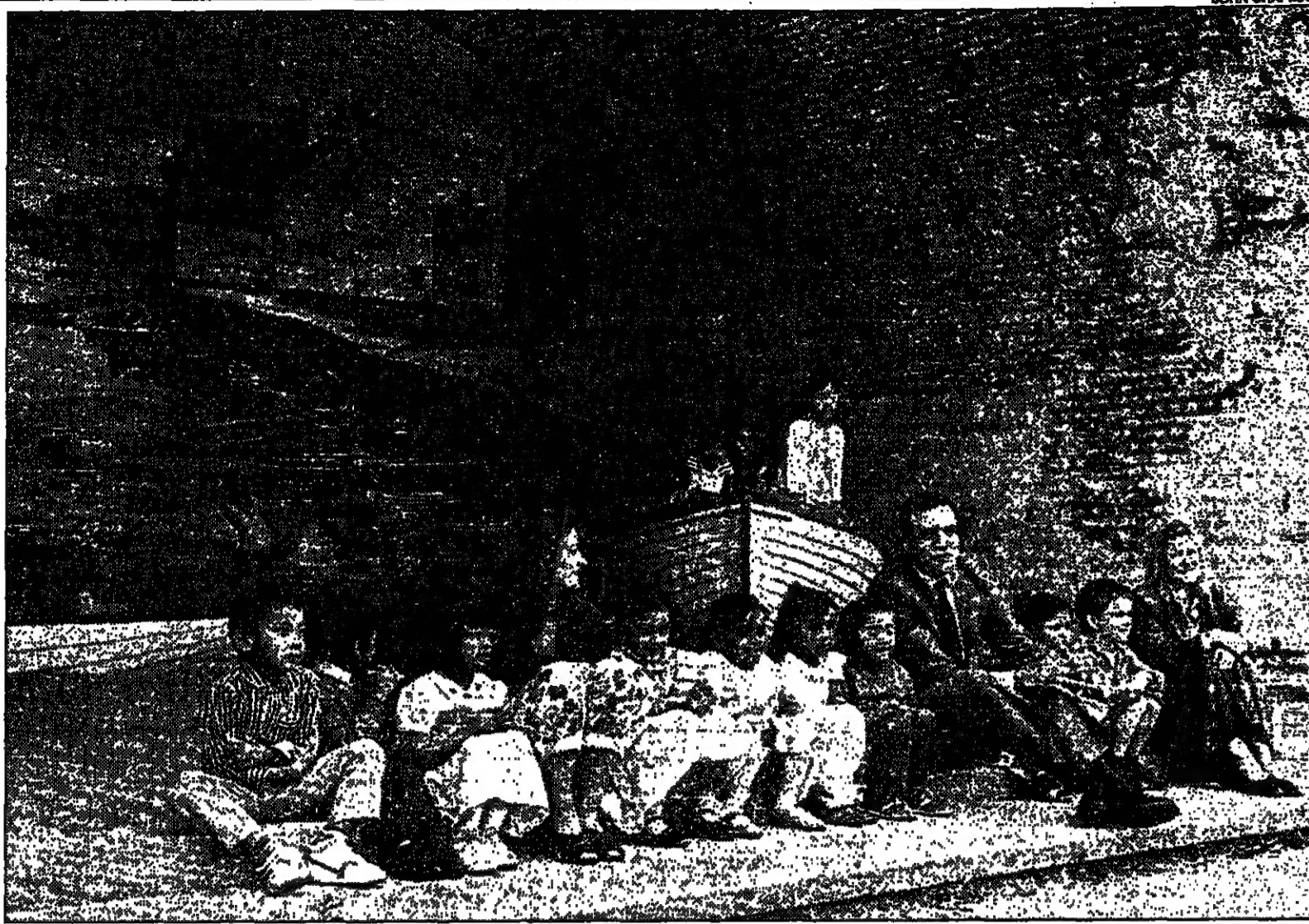
"Supported by the government, they have started earlier, worked harder and done better than the IlEA to fill their vacancies." The education minister will meet representatives from the local authorities this afternoon who are seeking more money to repeat their success next year.

In Leicestershire, however, where the term began a fortnight ago, there were 22 vacancies in secondary schools, 11 in primary and one in a special school yesterday. The number of vacancies in Essex had dropped from 330 two months ago to a handful yesterday, in both primary and secondary schools. The authority said that many of the places were filled by staff recruited on short-term contracts, although advertisements had attracted a late rush of 200 enquiries.

Berkshire said it had 12 unfilled posts at the start of term, nine of which were in primary schools. Coventry reported seven vacancies, four in primary and three in secondary schools. Bolton had five empty primary-school posts and five in secondary schools. At the end of May, however, the authority reported 171 vacancies. Hertfordshire said it was short of about 16 primary school teachers and 11 secondary school staff at the beginning of the week, compared to a total 94 vacancies at the same time last year.

The education authority in Sheffield, however, reported that it now had surplus staff and a task force of about 14 teachers had been formed to cover for any short-term absences.

A-levels, page 10



Back to school: Timothy Eggar, the education minister, joins children in the playground at a primary school in Tower Hamlets, London

Speculation grows on future of Scottish Tory chairman

By KERRY GILL

SPECULATION was growing last night that Michael Forsyth, chairman of the Scottish Conservative party, was about to leave his post in the wake of widespread disquiet over his leadership.

Mr Forsyth is expected to meet Margaret Thatcher today to discuss the wrangling within the party. A senior party official confirmed that he had held a meeting with office bearers from the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Association in Edinburgh, at which they had expressed their increasing concern over recent party in-fighting.

Over the past few weeks, the Scottish Tory Reform Group has been open in its demands for Mrs Thatcher to replace

Mr Forsyth with a new chairman. Last month, the most senior official at the Scottish headquarters resigned and it is an open secret that he had enough of the slanging matches between Mr Forsyth's supporters and the left wing of the party.

On Wednesday, it emerged that George Younger, the former defence secretary who is to give up his parliamentary seat at the next general election, had been asked by senior Tories if he was interested in taking over as the Scottish chairman. Mr Younger, who is chairman of the Royal Bank of Scotland, said that he was not interested and already had a job to do.

One theory being put about last night was that Lord Sanderson of Bowden, a minister of state at the Scottish Office, could be appointed chairman once he gives up his ministerial duties. An official at Tory central office in Edinburgh, however, said that Mr Forsyth appeared perfectly calm.

"Perhaps the media is feeding on itself and getting excited over not a very great deal. It is a thoroughly confused picture," he said.

There is a feeling that Mr Forsyth might not be offered

an alternative position in the government. He might be required to continue as the Scottish health minister and be persuaded to spend more time defending his parliamentary seat of Stirling where he has a majority of just 948. One backbench MP said: "If I was in his position I would have packed in some months ago, although I, personally, would be very sorry to see him go as he has had a high profile in campaigning terms."

Malcolm Rifkind, the Scottish secretary, is also known to find it difficult to work with Mr Forsyth. Mr Rifkind enjoys Mrs Thatcher's confidence in spite of several differences in opinion over Scottish matters in recent months. She may decide that the only way to calm the party in Scotland in the run-up to a general election is to cut her losses and ask for Mr Forsyth's resignation.

Support for the Conservatives in Scotland has risen from 19 per cent to 22 per cent over the past month, while Labour's lead has slipped from 52 per cent to 49 per cent, according to a System Three opinion poll published in yesterday's *Glasgow Herald*.

ITN staff vote for strike ballot

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT Television News looks certain to suffer all-out, quick-fire strikes next month after staff called on union representatives to proceed with a postal ballot for industrial action.

At a meeting yesterday more than 300 employees rejected ITN's improved and final 7 per cent pay offer, reached after three days of talks with the unions and Acas, the conciliatory body.

John Hunt, the National Union of Journalists' organiser and head of the joint shops committee, said: "The vote is a clear indication that a huge majority are in favour of strike action." Only one employee in the crowded meeting voted against a motion from the floor calling on the unions to organise the ballot and campaign for a "yes" vote. A meeting of about 20 ITN employees at the TUC conference in Blackpool also gave full backing to the strike ballot.

Mike Morris, ITN's director of personnel and industrial relations, said employees choosing to strike were playing with their jobs, adding that ITN had well-laid plans to keep its news services running throughout a dispute. He said mass dismissals of striking workers, as carried out by TV-

am two years ago, was not the preferred solution. "We have a highly skilled workforce that we value," Mr Morris said.

The ballot papers, to be sent out later this week with a return deadline of September 24, read: "Are you prepared to take part in a campaign of strikes of up to 24 hours in pursuit of the claim and all matters arising out of the claim and its settlement?" The joint shops committee had been constrained by the terms of the Acas agreement from recommending a ballot. Mr Hunt said employees were fully aware that ITN management had threatened to take on the unions in "a bloody and lengthy battle".

He said that the main stumbling block was the management's unwillingness to back down on compulsory overtime working arrangements. "If it went away, an 8 per cent pay offer would not be accepted with compulsory night working," he said.

Mr Morris said ITN would not budge on compulsory night work because half of its production was done through the night. "They are voting against the future of TV news if they vote to strike," he said.

Plea for flexibility on Ulster initiative

JOHN Alderdice, the Alliance party leader, yesterday had discussions with Charles Haughey, the Irish republic's prime minister, and urged flexibility and compromise by all sides as Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, prepares to resume his "talks about talks" initiative.

In Dublin, Dr Alderdice had talks with the Fianna Fail leader, Mr Haughey; Fine Gael; the Progressive Democrats; and the British ambassador, Sir Nicholas Fearn.

Tomorrow, Mr Brooke is due to make an important speech setting the scene for the resumption of his series of discussions with the unionist parties, the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the Alliance Party, and the Irish government. He is attempting to put together a framework for autumn negotiations covering internal government structures for Northern Ireland, and relationships between North and South and between the United Kingdom and the republic.

A formula has still to be worked out on when the Irish government should become involved in negotiations. In recent days there have been signs of a hardening of attitudes by some unionists, who gave warning about the danger of the process unravelling.

After meeting Mr Haughey, Dr Alderdice said that the process had faltered over the summer and called for "a serious attempt to pick up the pieces".

MPs meet over Gulf moves

Commons defence committee MPs are expected to hold talks at Westminster today to decide whether to visit British troops in the Gulf and investigate any aspect of the government's defence commitments there.

The Tory-dominated committee, chaired by Michael Mates, is likely to ask for a briefing with defence officials or ministers before starting any enquiry. The MPs have kept in touch with developments through their clerk.

Kuwait invasion, pages 5-9

Triggers case

A woman and two men were sent for trial at the Old Bailey by magistrates in Brent, north London, yesterday accused over the seizure of 40 nuclear detonating triggers destined for Iraq. Tonic Foodz Amyni, 37, a Lebanese engineer, Ali Ashour Daghir, 49, a company director with Iraqi and British nationality, and Jeanine Celestine Speckman, 41, a French export executive, were granted bail.

London remand

A man was remanded in custody for seven days yesterday charged with the murder of two women found strangled in a car in north London six weeks ago. Michael Shorey, an accounts clerk aged 34, of Upper Holloway, London, was charged with the murder of Patricia Morrison, aged 28, and Elaine Forsyth, aged 31, on or about July 21. Both women worked for city estate agents.

Service survey

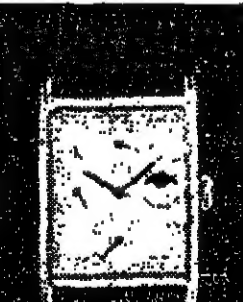
Only two of 30 garages asked to service cars in a Consumers' Association survey did the job completely, according to *Which?* magazine. The others failed to attend to some items on the service list, and some ticked jobs as done that had not been carried out. Many left the cars in an unroadworthy condition.

CORRECTION

The code for booking a wake-up call reported in the *Times* yesterday should have read: pick up the receiver, press Star 55 Star, key in the alarm time, and then the Gate button. The code as given was based on information supplied by British Telecom.

Buying The Times overseas: USA \$15.00, Canada \$12.00, Australia \$10.00, New Zealand \$10.00, South Africa \$10.00, India \$10.00, Pakistan \$10.00, Sri Lanka \$10.00, Hong Kong \$10.00, Singapore \$10.00, Malaysia \$10.00, Brunei \$10.00, Indonesia \$10.00, Philippines \$10.00, Thailand \$10.00, Vietnam \$10.00, Cambodia \$10.00, Laos \$10.00, Myanmar \$10.00, Bangladesh \$10.00, Nepal \$10.00, Bhutan \$10.00, Maldives \$10.00, Seychelles \$10.00, Mauritius \$10.00, Reunion \$10.00, French Polynesia \$10.00, New Caledonia \$10.00, Wallis & Futuna \$10.00, French Southern Territories \$10.00, Monaco \$10.00, San Marino \$10.00, Vatican City \$10.00, Liechtenstein \$10.00, Andorra \$10.00, Gibraltar \$10.00, Jersey \$10.00, Guernsey \$10.00, Isle of Man \$10.00, Channel Islands \$10.00, British Virgin Islands \$10.00, Cayman Islands \$10.00, Anguilla \$10.00, Antigua & Barbuda \$10.00, Barbados \$10.00, Belize \$10.00, Bermuda \$10.00, Bolivia \$10.00, Brazil \$10.00, Brunei \$10.00, Bulgaria \$10.00, Cambodia \$10.00, Canada \$10.00, Chile \$10.00, China \$10.00, Colombia \$10.00, Costa Rica \$10.00, Croatia \$10.00, Czech Republic \$10.00, Denmark \$10.00, Dominica \$10.00, Dominican Republic \$10.00, Ecuador \$10.00, Egypt \$10.00, El Salvador \$10.00, England \$10.00, Equatorial Guinea \$10.00, Ethiopia \$10.00, Fiji \$10.00, Finland \$10.00, France \$10.00, French Polynesia \$10.00, Gabon \$10.00, Gambia \$10.00, Germany \$10.00, Ghana \$10.00, Greece \$10.00, Grenada \$10.00, Guatemala \$10.00, Guinea \$10.00, Guinea-Bissau \$10.00, Guyana \$10.00, Haiti \$10.00, Honduras \$10.00, Hungary \$10.00, Iceland \$10.00, India \$10.00, Indonesia \$10.00, Ireland \$10.00, Israel \$10.00, Italy \$10.00, Jamaica \$10.00, Japan \$10.00, Jordan \$10.00, Kazakhstan \$10.00, Kenya \$10.00, Korea \$10.00, Kuwait \$10.00, Kyrgyzstan \$10.00, Laos \$10.00, Latvia \$10.00, Lebanon \$10.00, Lesotho \$10.00, Liberia \$10.00, Lithuania \$10.00, Luxembourg \$10.00, Madagascar \$10.00, Malawi \$10.00, Malaysia \$10.00, Maldives \$10.00, Mali \$10.00, Malta \$10.00, Mauritania \$10.00, Mauritius \$10.00, Mexico \$10.00, Moldova \$10.00, Monaco \$10.00, Mongolia \$10.00, Montenegro \$10.00, Morocco \$10.00, Mozambique \$10.00, Myanmar \$10.00, Namibia \$10.00, Nepal \$10.00, Netherlands \$10.00, New Zealand \$10.00, Nicaragua \$10.00, Niger \$10.00, Nigeria \$10.00, North Macedonia \$10.00, Norway \$10.00, Oman \$10.00, Pakistan \$10.00, Panama \$10.00, Papua New Guinea \$10.00, Paraguay \$10.00, Peru \$10.00, Philippines \$10.00, Poland \$10.00, Portugal \$10.00, Romania \$10.00, Russia \$10.00, Rwanda \$10.00, Saudi Arabia \$10.00, Senegal \$10.00, Serbia \$10.00, Seychelles \$10.00, Sierra Leone \$10.00, Singapore \$10.00, Slovakia \$10.00, Slovenia \$10.00, South Africa \$10.00, South Korea \$10.00, Spain \$10.00, Sri Lanka \$10.00, Sudan \$10.00, Sweden \$10.00, Switzerland \$10.00, Taiwan \$10.00, Tajikistan \$10.00, Tanzania \$10.00, Thailand \$10.00, Timor \$10.00, Togo \$10.00, Tonga \$10.00, Trinidad & Tobago \$10.00, Tunisia \$10.00, Turkey \$10.00, Turkmenistan \$10.00, Tuvalu \$10.00, Uganda \$10.00, Ukraine \$10.00, United Arab Emirates \$10.00, United Kingdom \$10.00, United States \$10.00, Uruguay \$10.00, Uzbekistan \$10.00, Vanuatu \$10.00, Venezuela \$10.00, Vietnam \$10.00, Wales \$10.00, Wallis & Futuna \$10.00, Western Sahara \$10.00, Yemen \$10.00, Zambia \$10.00, Zimbabwe \$10.00.

ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD.



The Harrods watch with national calendar and moon phase indicator, for men, women, children, and babies, with the Harrods logo.

The Harrods watch has a new case in stainless steel. For the very first time, the minute, hour, date, day of the week, month, year and moon phase appear mechanically and automatically on a rectangular 18k gold-plated case. One finger models also available.

IWC

International Watch Co. Ltd. Schaffhausen, Switzerland Since 1868

Harrods Watch Department, Ground Floor

Harrods

Harrods, Knightsbridge SW1 Telephone 071 730 1234

Totnes damage assessed

By SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

HOURS after fire all but destroyed East Gate, the historic centrepiece of Totnes, Devon, the first stage of restoration had begun with a meeting to assess the damage and the task ahead.

The meeting involved the Duke of Somerset, experts from English Heritage and the environment department, local planning officials and insurance executives. Keith Weston, the structural engineer for English Heritage, who specialises in fire damage and advised at Hampton Court and Uppark, was present to advise on first steps. Michael Carpenter, director of planning for South Hams district council, said: "Two priorities became clear. We need to erect scaffolding to support the structure and provide temporary cover, and... we must record exactly what is left before too much is cleared away."

Nicholas Molyneux, inspector of historic buildings for English Heritage, will arrive tomorrow to advise on archaeological procedure.

Miner's leader is mocked in deodorant advertisement

By PETER VICTOR

THE advertisement was a bit much for breakfast table reading. Just a few pages after reading of the National Union of Mineworkers' impending flight to Paris in search of the alleged missing £1 million strike fund donation from Soviet miners, there, larger than life, was Arthur Scargill. Underneath the picture was a small caption of an anti-perspirant called Mitchum, with the message: "For when you're really sweating."

It was greeted with giggles and amusement in the mining communities of South Wales. "This must be Arthur's latest desperate attempt at getting back the missing millions," Kim Howells, Labour MP for Pontypridd and the union's former research officer in South Wales, said. "It only goes to show that the deodorant is more ozone friendly than he is."

Others thought that Revlon, manufacturer of Mitchum, had selected a poor pin-up. "Arthur does not need a deodorant because he doesn't sweat. He's a cool customer, that one," Gordon Bartley, a union lodge chairman, said. Some could see a connection,



Scargill in advertisement without his permission

agreeing with the verdict of an Ammanford miner from Betws colliery. "It's about time he cleaned his act up a bit," he said. "We don't think much of Arthur, particularly after this big stink with the Russian money."

At Woolley Colliery, near Barnsley, where Mr Scargill used to work, there was solidarity. "They're trying to make him look stupid, one man said, summing up the consensus. They want Arthur out of the way, but we all

know he's an honest man." Tim Delaney, a director at the Leagas Delaney advertising agency, which created the advertisement, said that Mr Scargill was chosen because he was under pressure.

"It could have been Saddam Hussein," he said. "We considered Bobby Robson, but the World Cup went better than we expected. We'd like to use a politician pretty soon. Edwina Currie would have been a great one."

Revlon managers in America have requested that the firm does not use Margaret Thatcher or the Queen, "for politeness sake". Mr Delaney said Mr Scargill was not approached for his permission and would not be paid. So far, there had been no writs.

"We haven't heard a thing," Mr Delaney said. "If he's big about it, he'll say this is just more publicity. Often these people get to a point where being in the headlines is more important to them than anything else."

He said Mr Scargill would not go unwarded. "We'll probably send him a couple of tubes of Mitchum. I don't know how many, it depends how hot things get for him."

سکتا ہے ان کی

Cancer patients at holistic centre 'are more likely to die'

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN with breast cancer who receive alternative therapy at a centre in Bristol as well as orthodox treatment are more likely to die than patients undergoing conventional treatment only, according to a study to be published in *The Lancet* tomorrow.

The study, which could be a significant setback for alternative medicine in Britain, showed that patients attending the Bristol Cancer Help Centre were three times as likely to suffer a relapse, with the cancer spreading to other parts of the body. In addition, women whose cancer had already started spreading when they arrived at the centre were twice as likely to die as women who went only to national health service hospitals. Researchers from the Institute of Cancer Research, who carried out the study jointly with the centre using control groups at the Royal Marsden, Sutton, Surrey, and two other hospitals in the South-East, said that they were baffled by the results.

They did concede, however, that psychological factors predisposing certain women to attend the centre may have influenced the results. A separate study to assess the emotional state and attitudes of women before they attend the centre, compared to patients undergoing orthodox treatment only, is now being carried out.

The centre, which sees about 1,000 patients a year, offers a treatment based on relaxation and meditation, psychological counselling, spiritual healing and a diet of mainly vegetarian organically grown foods. Many doctors refer patients there in the belief that it helps people to adopt a more positive outlook to their disease. Patients attend for a day or a week, with fees ranging from £100 to £600 and about half of them return for further treatment.

The study compared 334 breast cancer patients who attended the centre for the first time between June 1986 and October 1987 with 461 patients from the Royal Marsden, the Crawley hospital, West Sussex, and New Royal Surrey County hospital, Guildford, Surrey. All the women were followed until June 1988.

Professor Clair Chilvers, who led the research team, told a press conference that other factors may have influenced the results. The stringent diet recommended by the centre may have been followed too rigorously when patients were at home, so that they lost too much weight. Alternatively, the women who attended the Bristol centre could, in a subtle way, have had a more advanced cancer than patients undergoing orthodox treatment only.

Professor Chilvers said that the two groups of women were at the same clinical stage of the disease, and the numbers receiving drug therapy and radiotherapy were similar. Although the Bristol group was, on average, younger than the control group and more had had mastectomies, there was no scientific evidence that this would alter the aggressiveness of the disease, she said.

There was also no evidence that patients at the centre had delayed going back to their consultant when they had suspected a relapse. The handful of patients who refused to accept orthodox treatment were excluded from the study.

Professor Chilvers said: "It could be that Bristol attendees have a psychological response to their cancer that is different. But there might be some element of the Bristol regime that does harm. The Bristol centre is known for its diet, although it is much less stringent than in the past."

Doctors now working in orthodox medicine felt that, if patients went to the Bristol centre, it might not do them any good but would not do them any harm, she said. "I think that attitude is going to have to change a bit."

Dr Michael Wetzler, one of the doctors at the centre, emphasised that the report was an interim one and should not be considered in isolation without the psychological study. While not accepting the results as conclusive, he said: "If someone were to die a little bit earlier with a better quality of life, then I think there is no problem."

Penny Brohn, who founded the Bristol centre in 1980, said that it was known for its gentle approach and offered patients a good diet full of nutritional food. "Clearly we have a ghost in the machine here," she said that the "puzzling" results should not be exploited by people who did not favour alternative therapy. "We must not let a small blip have devastating consequences."

Doctors may have clue to cot deaths

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A MECHANISM that explains why some babies die suddenly has been discovered by three British doctors. The discovery could be a big step towards understanding cot deaths, which claim the lives of 2,000 babies in Britain every year.

The doctors examined infants prone to sudden attacks in which they turn blue and lose consciousness. A sudden shock, pain, or moment of fear triggers the attack in which the amount of oxygen in the blood drops, causing loss of consciousness. The findings were published this week in *Archives of Disease in Childhood*.

Dr David Southall and Dr Martin Samuels, from Brompton hospital, and Dr David Talbot, of the Royal Postgraduate medical school, studied 51 infants with a history of attacks. In most cases the attacks began when the child was awake and was surprised or alarmed in some way, provoking a cry or an attempt to cry.

Blood vessels around the lungs would open and allow blood from the heart to bypass the lungs, where it normally picks up oxygen. As a result, the blood quickly became starved of oxygen, throwing the baby into a coma.

The finding is consistent with that of other researchers who in post-mortem examinations have found that some cot-death babies do have a number of blood vessels that bypass the lungs.

Dr Southall and his colleagues are testing a treatment based on their findings. The treatment involves the drug tetraethazine, which prevents the production of noradrenaline by the brain, and the use of oxygen to counter the low blood-oxygen levels. Of 15 patients treated all showed improvements and in most cases the attacks were eliminated.

MP renews call for Aids compensation

By JOHN WINDER

A RENEWED campaign to win compensation for haemophilia sufferers infected with Aids-contaminated blood will begin when Parliament returns next month.

Alfred Morris, MP for Manchester Wythenshawe and former Labour minister for the disabled, has already tabled a question to Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, for reply on the day the Commons resumes. He wants to know why the government is withholding documents from the victims' legal advisers and if the minister will allow their release.

Efforts to get compensation have foundered because some victims have incomes too high to qualify for legal aid but cannot afford a complicated legal case. The case of Gerald

Hillary, aged 16, who died last year, has already been referred by Mr Morris to William Reid, the health service ombudsman. Mr Reid has said, however, that he cannot act as the Haemophilia Society is already taking legal action. "Presumably Mr Reid's presumption was that if the society was litigating, it would be on behalf of all. That is not correct," Mr Morris said.

The society was not acting for all cases. Mr Hillary's family cannot afford to fight a legal action and the health department is blocking access to documents required for any proper adjudication by the courts, Mr Morris said. "Only the Ombudsman can penetrate the darkness, because there is no door in Whitehall he cannot open."

mainly vegetarian organically grown foods. Many doctors refer patients there in the belief that it helps people to adopt a more positive outlook to their disease. Patients attend for a day or a week, with fees ranging from £100 to £600 and about half of them return for further treatment.

The study compared 334 breast cancer patients who attended the centre for the first time between June 1986 and October 1987 with 461 patients from the Royal Marsden, the Crawley hospital, West Sussex, and New Royal Surrey County hospital, Guildford, Surrey. All the women were followed until June 1988.

Professor Clair Chilvers, who led the research team, told a press conference that other factors may have influenced the results. The stringent diet recommended by the centre may have been followed too rigorously when patients were at home, so that they lost too much weight. Alternatively, the women who attended the Bristol centre could, in a subtle way, have had a more advanced cancer than patients undergoing orthodox treatment only.

Professor Chilvers said that the two groups of women were at the same clinical stage of the disease, and the numbers receiving drug therapy and radiotherapy were similar. Although the Bristol group was, on average, younger than the control group and more had had mastectomies, there was no scientific evidence that this would alter the aggressiveness of the disease, she said.

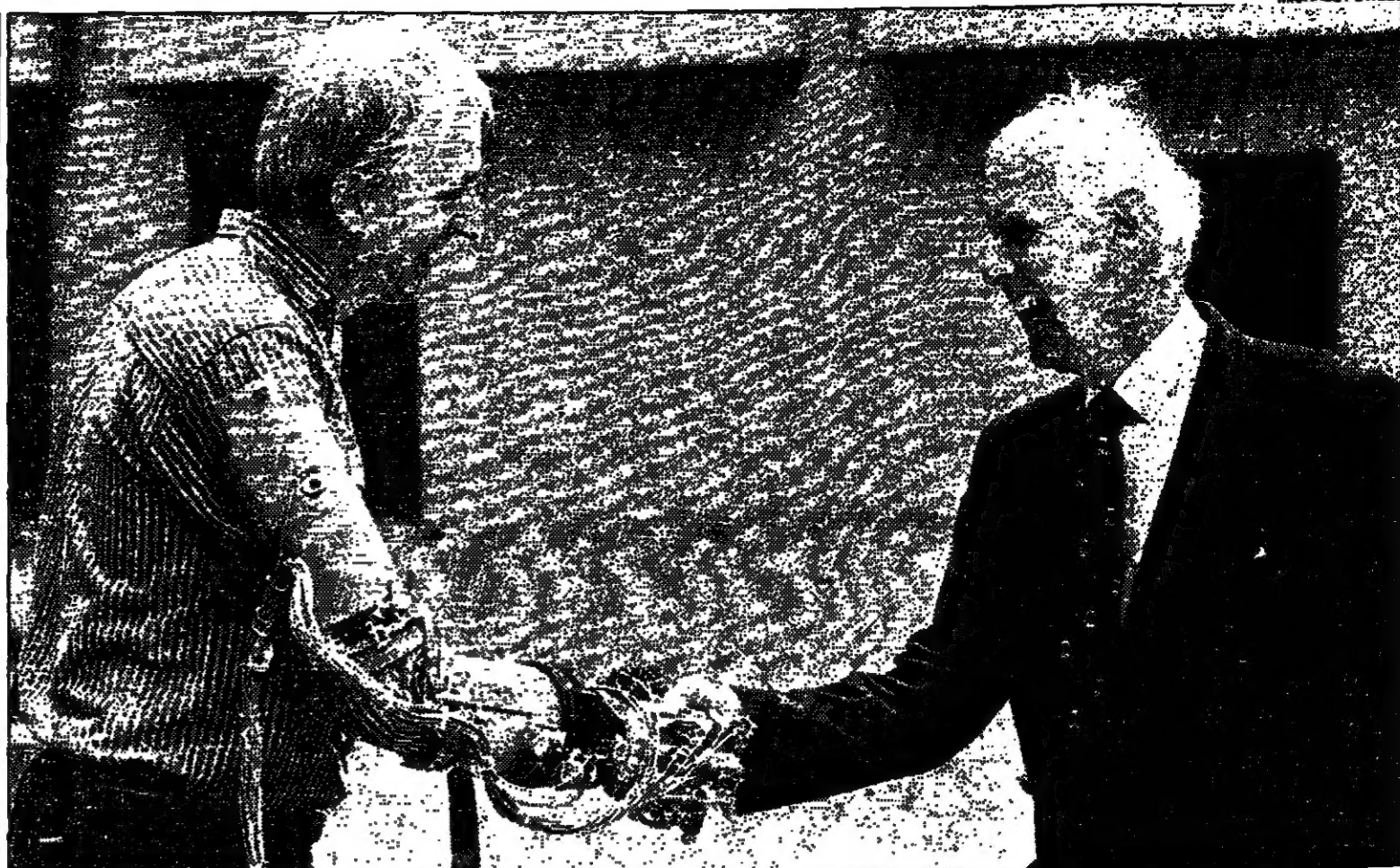
There was also no evidence that patients at the centre had delayed going back to their consultant when they had suspected a relapse. The handful of patients who refused to accept orthodox treatment were excluded from the study.

Professor Chilvers said: "It could be that Bristol attendees have a psychological response to their cancer that is different. But there might be some element of the Bristol regime that does harm. The Bristol centre is known for its diet, although it is much less stringent than in the past."

Doctors now working in orthodox medicine felt that, if patients went to the Bristol centre, it might not do them any good but would not do them any harm, she said. "I think that attitude is going to have to change a bit."

Dr Michael Wetzler, one of the doctors at the centre, emphasised that the report was an interim one and should not be considered in isolation without the psychological study. While not accepting the results as conclusive, he said: "If someone were to die a little bit earlier with a better quality of life, then I think there is no problem."

Penny Brohn, who founded the Bristol centre in 1980, said that it was known for its gentle approach and offered patients a good diet full of nutritional food. "Clearly we have a ghost in the machine here," she said that the "puzzling" results should not be exploited by people who did not favour alternative therapy. "We must not let a small blip have devastating consequences."



Biologic handshake: Richard Greenhill, wearing a data-glove used for training robots to perform hand movements, meets Arthur Collier, a fellow competitor in the first International Robotic Olympics, to take place in Scotland later this month. Over 50 competitors, using the latest developments in computer and engineering technology,

will aim to show that their robots can do more than spray car bodies or weld sheets of metal (Nick Nuttall writes).

The robots, taking part in events organised by the Turing Institute at Strathclyde university, will scale tall buildings, run over rough terrain, swim, ski, mow a lawn and pick up litter. Mechanical participants from

the Soviet Union, Canada, the United States, Japan, Singapore, Mexico, Canada and several European countries are taking part in the event, to be held on September 27 and 28. Duncan Mathews, head of the technology unit at NatWest, one of the sponsors, said: "Through the fun aspects of the event we hope to heighten public awareness

of the potential uses for robots." Should bad weather stop the games, the organisers can call on Martin Smith, of the East London polytechnic, who was demonstrating Wilberforce, a robotic arm that doubles as a barter.

Science and technology, page 14

German plan may change air shows at Farnborough

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE present Farnborough air show, the showcase of the British aerospace industry, may be the last of its kind after pressure from the powerful new German aerospace industry for a European aviation exhibition spectacular.

Frustrated at being denied an effective "shop window" of its own, the German industry, led by Deutsche Aerospace, wants a site to be developed in East Germany as the leading air show venue.

Its proposals, still to be worked out in detail, could lead to air shows being rotated on a tri-annual basis between Paris, Farnborough and the new East German site. They are to be discussed at the end of the month by representatives of the nine European nations with aviation interests.

The German move to bring future air shows under a single European "umbrella" follows the abandoning of further events at Hannover, where the show was cancelled after protests about noise and the involvement of military equipment manufacturers.

Jürgen Schrempf, chairman of Deutsche Aerospace, formed last year from a merger of Daimler-Benz, MBE, MTU, AEG, Dornier and Telefunken, said at Farnborough: "We are already looking at sites near East Berlin and in other major cities at present still within East Germany."

One possibility is the development of a large Russian air base near East Berlin once Soviet forces have withdrawn. "We believe that such a venue could provide a perfect place for East and West to meet, and, because it could be provided in a non built-up area, it could also have new roads and even a monorail to

get there quickly," Herr Schrempf said.

A major problem with Farnborough and Paris is access by often-congested roads.

The German argument for changing the organisation of the shows will be put to a meeting of the Association Européenne des Constructeurs de Matériel Aérospatial by Johan Schäffer, president of the German aerospace manufacturers' association, the BDLL.

A spokesman for the Society of British Aerospace Companies, which organises the Farnborough show, said: "We suggested some years ago that airshows should rotate between Britain, France, and Germany so that each country held one every three years, but our proposals were turned down by the French who insisted on holding the Paris air show every two years."

He added: "We would certainly consider any proposals about reorganising under a general European umbrella, however, the show could rotate between the three sites."

association, Gifas, is, however, certain to oppose the scheme, and its opposition may cause the Germans to go it alone and compete directly with either Farnborough or Paris in the near future.

The emerging German aerospace industry is determined to take a higher profile in Europe and the creation of its own show site is a priority.

A BDLL spokesman said: "We are convinced that the time has come to reorganise air shows on a European basis rather than have wasteful competition. We are looking for a suitable site in the East which would be a great attraction for potential customers from the Eastern Bloc."

"Our main concern is to ensure that German companies have a chance to show their products alongside the British and French, but there is no more room for a direct competitor with Paris or Farnborough. If it could be arranged under a European umbrella, however, the show could rotate between the three sites."

UK-Soviet project for helicopter

By OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN and Russia are to work together to produce and market a new passenger helicopter which, it is believed, could be a world-beater by the end of the century.

Rolls-Royce yesterday signed an agreement at the Farnborough air show to provide the engines for a 14-seat helicopter designed by the Soviet Union's Kamov Design Bureau. The two companies are to form a joint marketing team to sell the helicopter to the East and the West at a time when demand for helicopters is expected to face a sharp increase.

At least 200 are expected to be sold to the West for use on oil rig work and as flying ambulances, rescue aircraft and passenger carriers, with many more being bought in the East. Rolls-Royce will initially supply five RTM322 engines, used on the new Anglo-Italian EH101 helicopter, for development flying in the new aircraft, known as the Ka-62R. The first flight is planned for late 1993, with full certification for use through-

out Europe planned for mid-1995. The RTM engines would be fitted to versions of the Ka-62R that would be exported, while aircraft for the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries would be powered by a Russian-built engine.

The Ka-62R is designed to carry its 14 passengers more than 373 miles at speeds of about 170 mph. Sir Ralph Robins, managing director of Rolls-Royce, said that the agreement was extremely important and would lead to further co-operation with Russia.

Meanwhile, Britain's Helicopter space plane project, virtually grounded through lack of government cash two years ago, could be revived after an Anglo-Soviet joint study programme announced yesterday. The six-month study will try to find out whether it is possible to launch a new, interim Helo from a "piggy-back" position on top of the Soviet Antonov AN-225 transport plane, the world's largest aircraft.

Young Vic raises cash to avert closure

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ACTORS, audiences, local businesses and residents have helped save the Young Vic Theatre, south London, from closure. A benefit performance held last Sunday of Arthur Miller's *The Man Who Had All The Luck* raised the remainder of the £100,000 needed to keep the theatre open.

The management needed the money for rewiring and other work to meet fire safety requirements so that a new theatre licence could be granted. The theatre was given until the end of the month to raise the money and get work under way. The new fire escape, donated by a welding company, has already been erected this week.

"Donations have ranged from widows' mites to an anonymous draft of £25,000," David Thacker, the theatre's artistic director, said. "It has been a wonderful indication of the point of the theatre - that it is for everyone, the dockers, the doctor, the lawyer, the plumber."

The second phase of the appeal, to raise £250,000 for the restoration of the theatre by November 4, was launched yesterday with a contribution of £25,000 from the Equity Trust Fund, set up by the actors' union in March.



A limited edition lithograph based on a water-colour sketch by the Prince of Wales

Critical praise for the prince

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE painter Arthur George Carrick missed the preview of his first British one-man exhibition in Salisbury yesterday because of a broken arm, and so did not hear highly encouraging noises from more experienced artists. They all, of course, knew the painter's real identity.

The 63 paintings and three lithographs, the product of four years of snatched moments on overseas tours and long holidays at Balmoral, were done by the Prince of Wales. They have gone on display to aid the Salisbury cathedral spire restoration fund, of which he is president. Using a pseudonym composed of two of his christian

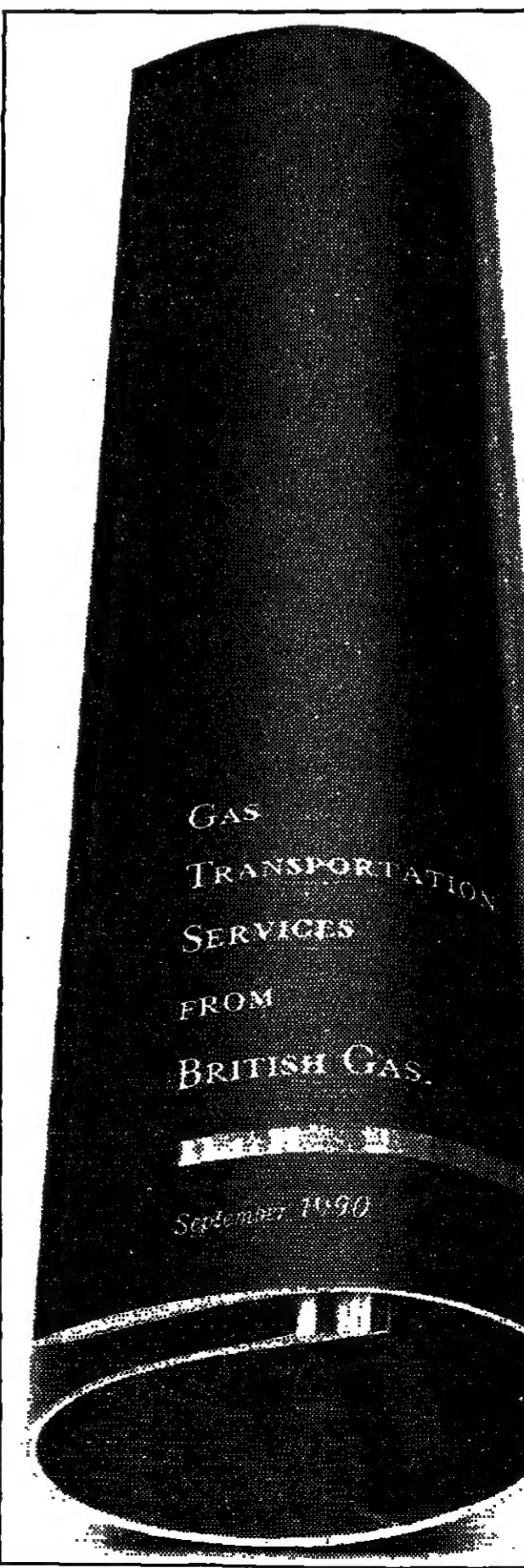
names and one of his earldoms to avoid any suggestion of favouritism when submitting work for the 1987 Royal Academy summer exhibition, the prince is now open about his artistic career, which he describes in the catalogue as "one of the most relaxing and therapeutic exercises I know". He is, as ever, self-effacing. "I am not exhibiting my sketches because I am under the delusion they represent great art or burgeoning talent. They represent my particular form of photographic album, and as such mean a great deal to me."

Charles Bartlett, president of the Royal Watercolour Society, said yesterday that

the prince was a sensitive artist. He suggested that the prince could tackle paintings in a larger scale than the postcard size to which he largely restricts himself.

Some of the paintings, he said, had an unfinished look (the prince says that he is often dragged away by his staff) but his only serious criticism was that the Italian scenes, many of them executed in the past few months, had been painted with an English eye.

None of the paintings, signed simply "C", is for sale, but three limited-edition lithographs, including a striking one of Windsor Castle just before a thunderstorm, are being offered at £2,600 a print.



How to get a piece of British Gas pipeline.

British Gas has produced a revised brochure giving details of its gas transportation services.

With simple guidelines, it explains how independent gas suppliers can utilise the British Gas national pipeline network.

The brochure lists the charges which take effect from 1st October, 1990.

For a copy of the brochure, or more information, phone 071-821 1444 or write to Gas Transportation Services Department, British Gas plc, 100 Rochester Row, London SW1P 1JR

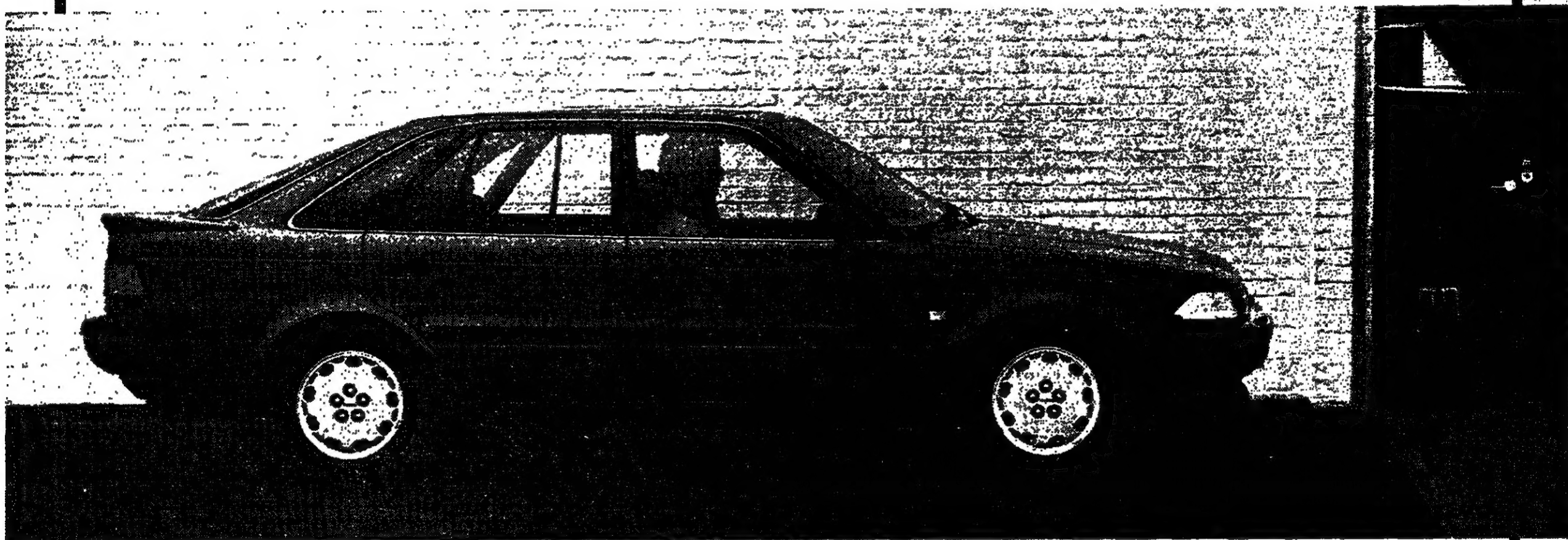
British Gas

Excellence need not

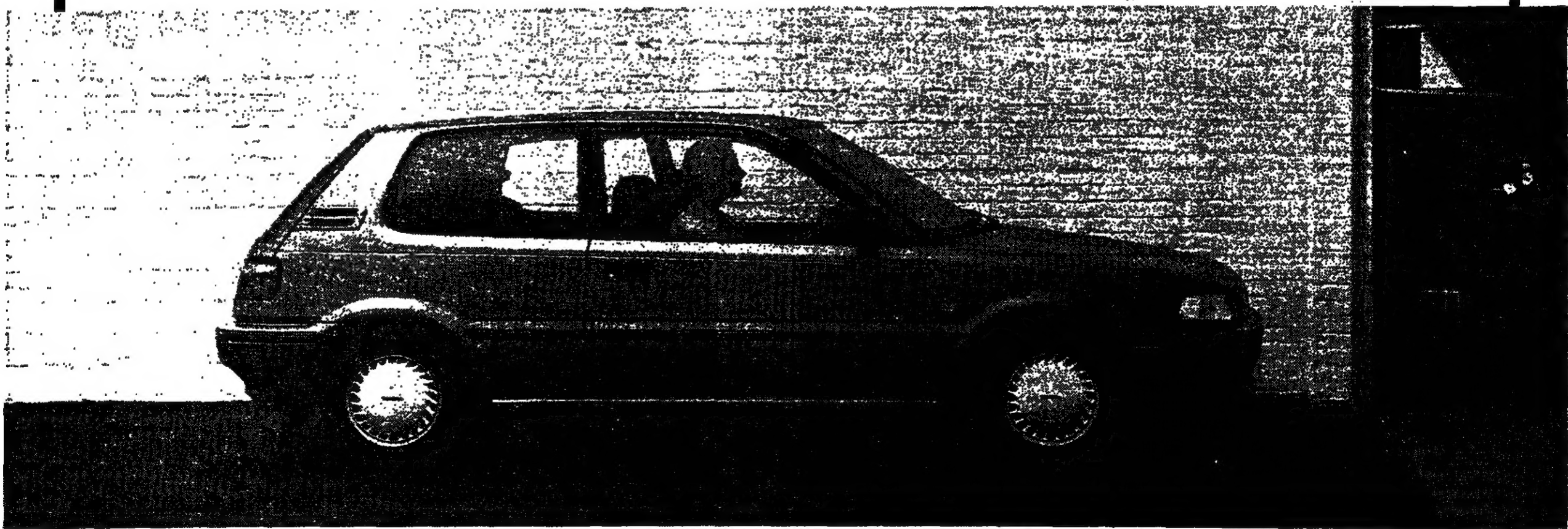


be the enemy of value.

PUT A NEW TOYOTA IN YOUR GARAGE, GET 2 YEARS' SERVICING ON THE HOUSE.



Carina Range includes XL 4 & 5 doors, GL 4 & 5 doors† & estate and 5 door Executive.† Prices from £10,281.*



Corolla Range includes GL 3,† 4 & 5† doors, 4 x 4 estate, GL estate, GTi 3 door and 5 door Executive.† Prices from £8,489.*

Only a new Carina or Corolla can sport such an impressive set of figures as these.

2 years' free servicing. (Or 18,000 miles.)

This goes for every Corolla or Carina registered between September 1st and October 31st.

3 years' free warranty. (Or 60,000 miles.)

Taken as read on all new Toyotas.

6 years' anti-corrosion warranty. Guarantees bodywork against corrosion until 1996.

1 years' RAC membership. The Carina and

Corolla consistently top the reliability tables.

Be that as it may, every Toyota is covered by the RAC's full roadside assistance and recovery service for a full 12 months.

So much for the impressive figures, now for the impressive facts.

Power steering. Fitted as standard on all 13 models in the Carina or Corolla range.

Power sunroof. No Carina is without one.

Multi-valve engines make for a smoother,

more responsive drive and can run on leaded or unleaded petrol.

You will find one tucked under the bonnet of every car in the Carina and Corolla range.

Your local Toyota dealer will be able to tell you the special deals to be had on particular models.

And if you would like the address of your nearest showroom, just remember one last set of figures: 0800 300 700.



*Price includes car tax and VAT, but excludes number plates and delivery. Models illustrated, Corolla GL 3 £8,489 & Carina Executive £14,356. Free service offer applies to scheduled intervals only. See dealer for full details. †Auto Option.

هذه هي الفكرة

هكذا في الأصل



levels were less than one-twentieth of those at the end of the 1970s.

"There is a perception that religion is often reduced to a Sunday cultic observance, rather than an inspiration for the totality of lives," Mr Pitt said. "We want to alert people to the fact that the Christian gospel has something to say about social issues."

By TIM JONES AND NICHOLAS WOOD

Labour is committed to "regular discussions between

Under the package, put forward by John Edmonds, of the GMB general union, and Alan Tiffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, important wage negotiations would be concentrated in the first three months of the year after a discussion between the three "partners." The procedure would be triggered by publication of the government's annual autumn statement on the economy. The Budget, which would come at the end of this highly compressed wage round, would take into account

Mr Tuffin also said that the proposal was not a stalking horse for wage restraint. It was designed to end a free for all.

The only dissent came from Tony Lennon, of the Broadcasting and Entertainment Trades Alliance, who said that the proposals amounted to the acceptance of a pay policy. "The disguise is so thin that the false nose and dark glasses fell off during the speeches by the mover and seconder."

Letters, page 11



By OUR POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENT.

With more than 40 resolutions demanding a reduction in defence spending on the agenda for the Labour conference later this month, the stage is set for argument over how the money should be spent.

Charles Kelly, Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, told of the "cacophony of wolf whistles" greeting young women who walked past building sites. He said he hoped that the union's view on equal rights would gain wide support in time.

Ken Gill, MSP general secretary, said that channelling defence savings into rebuilding industry was a priority. He added: "We think it is quite impossible to talk about improving pensions, services and schools unless there is the kind of manufacturing base that provides that kind of prosperity".

A high-contrast, black and white photograph showing a large number '25' formed by a circular arrangement of cars. The cars are parked in a circle, with their headlights and taillights visible, creating a pattern of light and dark shapes. The background is dark and textured, possibly a field or a large parking lot. The number '25' is formed by the cars, with the '2' being a large, curved shape and the '5' being a smaller, more compact shape.

ASTRA LY 145d-

Or perhaps a Special Edition, like the Astra

But there's more to the current Astra deals than just free interest.



BY KEVIN EASON

Personal

linked to the Channel tunnel for high-speed trains, but Cecil Parkinson, the transport secretary, could not "even get his act together" to build 70 miles of high-speed track from London to Dover, he said.

By PETER MULLIGAN

He added: "We must ensure that this trend is not allowed to spread and we must be determined in our aim for the restoration of collective representation where this has been withdrawn".

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS NEITHER RECOMMENDATIONS NOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. IT IS THE PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS AND IS LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY; IT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY.

Peace
dividend
priorities
for jobs

US agrees to talks with Cambodian government

By JAMES PRINGLE IN JAKARTA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE United States is to begin direct talks with the Vietnamese-installed government in Cambodia, James Baker, the US Secretary of State, said yesterday. His announcement to the Senate foreign relations committee was made as doubts emerged over whether talks scheduled in Jakarta to pursue United Nations peace initiatives would begin.

Both Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the Cambodian resistance coalition, and Hun Sen, prime minister of Cambodia, the principal leaders of the rival factions, have declared that they would not attend.

Mr Baker told the Senate committee that Washington would begin talks with Phnom Penh because he had been encouraged by the Hun Sen government and the other Cambodian factions of the UN plan to end the civil war in the country.

He also expressed optimism that the rival factions would achieve progress at their talks in Jakarta despite squabbling over who would attend the gathering.

In Jakarta, a frustrated Ali Alatas, the Indonesian foreign minister and host of the meeting, issued fresh appeals to Prince Sihanouk and Mr Hun Sen to attend the meeting, which diplomats here believe may be the country's last chance for peace.

The meeting, on which the hopes of the world community and the long-suffering

Cambodians rest, should have begun yesterday. But Mr Hun Sen has said he will not attend the talks unless Prince Sihanouk is present, while the former monarch, who is in Peking, is apparently holding himself above the fray.

Their attitudes have exasperated diplomats here representing the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which last week endorsed a blueprint for peace. "Sihanouk apparently expects to swoop in later from a great height after the minutiae have been dealt with by others," said one Western diplomat here.

Mr Alatas, who earlier this week said that a crucial stage in the "long and arduous negotiating process" had been reached, yesterday consulted with Cambodian leaders. They include Son Sann, the former prime minister and leader of one of the non-communist resistance factions, Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge representative, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who is representing his father, Prince Sihanouk, and Hor Nam Hong, Phnom Penh's foreign affairs minister.

Diplomats say the talks will have significantly less impact unless the two principal Cambodian figures in the peace process participate in person.

But an Indonesian foreign ministry spokesman said last night there was no conclusion yet to pre-conference consultations, and that these would continue today while the ministry "worked on" getting Mr Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk to attend. Diplomatic sources said Mr Alatas had personally issued fresh appeals to both.

"I pray to God, Mr Hun Sen comes," Mr Son Sann said. "It is our duty as Cambodians to be here, to work towards ending the war under which all Cambodians have suffered."

While describing the talks as "essential to Cambodia", Prince Ranariddh said that the coalition would be adequately represented by the leaders of the three factions and that Prince Sihanouk's presence was not essential.

Mr Hor said on arrival here yesterday that Mr Hun Sen would not attend unless Prince Sihanouk did.

The UN peace package foresees a UN role in administering Cambodia and monitoring a ceasefire in the run-up to general elections.

The price of failure that some see looming here could be disastrous. Kent Sokun, a senior official in Mr Son Sann's faction, said: "There are two possibilities in the event of failure. The first is that the Khmer Rouge are likely to intensify their military activity and win, taking over Cambodia. This could lead, secondly, to a new intervention by Vietnam, and this time it would swallow Cambodia."



Bridging the divide: South Korean delegates, right, shake hands with their North Korean colleagues at the opening of talks in Seoul yesterday

Tourist nightmare comes true in a frightened city

From CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

VISITORS were cutting short their visits to New York yesterday after the brutal mugging of a tourist family that brought a fresh bout of fear and outrage over the extraordinary violence sweeping the city in recent months.

Dozens of tourists are robbed every day in New York and some six citizens are murdered, but the death of Brian Watkins, aged 22, a tennis teacher from Utah, assembled all the ingredients of every tourist's nightmare trip to the mean streets of Manhattan.

Watkins, his mother, father and brother were waiting for a subway train in the busy midtown theatre district, after spending the day at the US Open tennis tournament. A gang of knife-wielding youths surrounded them and stole the father's wallet.

When they punched Karen Watkins, Brian and his brother went to her defence. He was stabbed in the chest, but chased his killer up three flights of steps before dying.

The gang, according to police, ran on to the Roseland dance hall, where they spent the evening. They had robbed the Watkins family because they needed the entrance fees, police said. Eight black and

Hispanic youths were charged yesterday with murder, as the city succumbed to another media-driven paroxysm of outrage and racial name-calling.

According to police, Gary Morales, the 18-year-old alleged to have wielded the "butterfly" flick knife, registered his defence: "The tourist ran into my knife."

The New York Times, which called the attack "the city's worst nightmare come true", reported that the youths belonged to a gang known as FTS. To join, a candidate must first commit an act of violent robbery.

As black leaders complained of the "hypocrisy" with which white America treats crimes against middle-class victims, Mayor David Dinkins and the city's police chief, both black, vowed once again to stem the tide of random violence that has begun in recent months to alarm even hardened native New Yorkers. Six children have been killed in the crossfire of gun battles in the past eight weeks.

While the subway gang was being arrested, the city buried a young prosecutor who was killed by a stray bullet outside a courthouse in the Bronx. Voicing a common opinion, the Daily News said yesterday: "There is an entire generation out there that feeds on viciousness, that has no concept of morality. To these punks, crime is a hobby. Violence is a way of life."

For Jimmy Breslin, the veteran chronicler of the city, the killing of Brian Watkins marked a watershed. The city would never be the same again, he said. "Dies the victim, dies the city."

The fear of the tourist business is that the publicity over the Watkins case will further deter visitors at a time



Dinkins: Plea to media not to sensationalise

when New York's economy is slipping into recession. The worldwide publicity over the rape of the woman jogger in Central Park last year is estimated to have cost the city millions of tourist dollars. A spokesman for the Better New York association said the Watkins murder "will set the tourist business back five years".

Mr Dinkins, who came under fire in the press yesterday for showing insufficient outrage, pleaded with the press to avoid dramatising the case.

As tourists vowed to television cameras that they would never return to New York, city officials advised visitors to stay in groups and avoid quiet streets at night. But sightseers with a taste for the macabre queued up to view the blood-stained passage in the 57th Street station where Brian Watkins collapsed after his chase.

Some hotels have adopted novel methods of ensuring guests' safety, providing escorted tours of the city. For a fee, a trained jogger-in-residence accompanies runners into the wilds of Central Park.

The killing could not have come at a worse time for the New York subway system. It had just launched a campaign to lure timid passengers back on the rails under the slogan: "We're coming back so you come back."

North Korea plays for time on unity

From SIMON WARNER IN SEOUL

NORTH Korea stopped short of derailing the current round of talks here on reunification with the South so that the dialogue could continue in Pyongyang next month, when any breakthrough would provide a propaganda coup on its home ground.

The North Korean delegates appeared to be interested only in preventing an agreement being reached during their four-day visit to Seoul, the first time such a meeting has taken place.

At the first round of talks yesterday, the prime ministers of North and South Korea delivered position papers which will form the basis for discussions today. Both sides issued sweeping statements calling for an easing of tensions and agreement on political and military matters that covered little new ground.

North Korea, however, made a patently unacceptable demand on the South to free people jailed for making unauthorised trips to Pyongyang. The North's obstructionist tactics were not unexpected, and the South was mostly intent on getting through the two encounters while preserving the mood for dialogue as a stepping stone towards a summit.

Yon Hoeng Muk, prime minister of North Korea, also called on the South to remove all foreign troops from Korean soil and agree to ban nuclear

weapons on the peninsula, arguing that disarmament must precede confidence-building measures.

Kang Young Hoon, the prime minister of the South, said Seoul preferred measures in the reverse order: first, building political confidence; second, building military confidence; and then, arms control and disarmament. The two Koreas have 1.5 million men under arms, with 43,000 US troops in the South.

The North called on the South to abolish its national security law, which defines North Korea as an enemy. The legislation is so sweeping that people can be jailed for simply planning a trip to Pyongyang. It also objected to an attempt by Seoul to join the United Nations on its own.

The South set out proposals for establishing railway, road, air and sea links and postal communications, all severed since the Korean war, and for ending the military build-up in the demilitarised zone that divides the two countries on the 38th parallel. But the proposal that the South hopes will go the furthest towards strengthening links with the North and luring it out of its stalinist isolation was for economic co-operation.

While little of substance is expected from the four-day visit, Seoul sees it as historic, simply because it is taking place.

German MP held on spy charges

From ANNE McELVOY IN EAST BERLIN

A LEADING Christian Democratic Union deputy was arrested yesterday on suspicion of having spied for East Germany, the West German public prosecutor's office announced.

Gerd Löffler, the CDU's energy spokesman and a prominent Hamburg industrialist, has been accused by a former state security ministry officer of having passed information about nuclear and aeronautical research in Schleswig-Holstein to the East Germans.

The investigation is the first against a public figure to ensue from the spate of former agents handing information to the West Germans in the hope of trading secrets for freedom from prosecution.

The public prosecutor said Herr Löffler's flat had been searched early yesterday. The immunity clause, which protects West German MPs from damaging publicity until charges are considered sound, has been lifted.

As energy spokesman, Herr Löffler had access to confidential details of the debate on nuclear energy which split the CDU in the mid-1980s. He is also a board member of the Hamburg-based Systemtechnik company, which partnered an aeronautical and space research enterprise and is thought to have been privy to classified government research programmes.

The revelation has unnerved the CDU, as it comes after hints by Markus Wolf, the former head of the East German espionage service, that he had agents in top political circles, including a secretary of state whose job was to influence West German policy. It has also awakened fears of political scandal on the lines of the Guillaume affair, in which Günter Guillaume, an East German spy, penetrated the office of Willy Brandt when he was chancellor in the 1970s.

A West German Nato official was also arrested yesterday on suspicion of spying. The man, identified only as Herbert K., is alleged to have passed documents to the Stasi secret police since 1968. Last week a foreign ministry official and four other West Germans were arrested on spying charges.

Bonn has confirmed that it plans an amnesty for East German spies, as long as there are no criminal charges outstanding against them.

Brazil police accused of child torture

Rio de Janeiro - Hundreds of children are being murdered and tortured in Brazil by death squads, often run by the police themselves, according to a report by Amnesty International (Louise Byrne writes). The report says Brazilian human rights organisations now believe at least one child a day is killed.

It cites the case of 13-year-old Leandro Cardoso da Silva, the victim of a macabre game of Russian roulette. After being picked up by military police in Rio on suspicion of breaking into a shop, Leandro and two friends were driven to waste ground where the game began. His two friends, aged nine and 15, survived, but Leandro's body was later dumped by a hotel.

Non-stop Paris

Paris - For the first time in the city's history, cars are to be banned from parking, or even stopping, along a 17-mile stretch of the main Parisian boulevards running north-south and east-west, to ease traffic jams. (AFP)

Drugs bust

Tokyo - Police have arrested two Britons, Allan John Ferris, aged 27, from Kowloon, Hong Kong, and Charles Jonathan Tapsell, aged 26, of unknown address, for allegedly smuggling marijuana into Japan. (AP)

Airport charges

Rome - The former chief of Fiumicino airport and three police officers are to stand trial on charges of negligence over a 1985 Palestinian guerrilla attack which killed 16 people. They are accused of failing to increase security at the airport despite warnings of planned attacks. (Reuters)

Ordered out

Belgrade - Four members of the Helsinki Federation monitoring the human rights situation in the Kosovo region have been arrested and served with expulsion orders.

Army fails to deter Bhutto

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN LAHORE

PAKISTAN'S military-backed caretaker government, a month old today, is intensifying its witch hunt of political allies of Benazir Bhutto, the deposed prime minister, to save its floundering strategy for keeping her out of power.

The tactics of the army and the acting government are taking on an element of farce, so blatant is the attempt to destroy the doggedly determined Miss Bhutto as a political force. The government, widely regarded as inept and discredited, has spent its entire time in power in vain attempts to turn opinion decisively against Miss Bhutto.

Unless she is blocked by rigged elections or banned from standing, there seems every chance that Miss

Bhutto's Pakistan People's party will emerge as the biggest single group in the poll due on October 24, although she would almost certainly fall far short of an outright majority. Attempts by the battery of feuding opposition parties to form electoral alliances are proving elusive, although efforts continue.

With less than seven weeks to election day, there is no sign that Miss Bhutto's political credibility has suffered unduly from the onslaught. She draws large and enthusiastic crowds and her party, although it has been shaken by some high-level defections, has held together surprisingly well. Her declining popularity in Sind, her home province, appears to have been restored, judging by

the turn-out wherever she speaks.

There are three main contenders among opposition parties for the post of prime minister: Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, the present acting prime minister; Nawaz Sharif, former chief minister of Punjab and head of the powerful Muslim League; and Mohammad Khan Junejo, a former prime minister ousted by the army in 1988.

The military is working to get opposition groups to present the appearance of unity for electoral purposes. The United States, aware of the army's frustration at its failure to discredit Miss Bhutto, has said its aid programme could be jeopardised if the military takes over.

Sale of Zulu war relics raises alarm

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

CUSTODIANS of South Africa's military heritage are angry over what they regard as the looting of a historic battlefield in Natal where British soldiers helped turn the tide of the Zulu War in the 19th century by routing a much bigger attacking force.

The National Monuments Council, alerted by a British military historian, is trying to recover eight large containers of relics removed from the site of the battle of Kambula. The artefacts are being offered for sale in Britain and the United States by a Texan entrepreneur.

The alarm was raised by Ian Knight, of Shoreham in Sussex, who received a catalogue offering items such as the remnants of an Enfield musket for \$180 (£100) and two 13th Light Infantry collar badges for \$750. Also for sale are Zulu spearheads and arm-rings, all accompanied by a "certificate of authenticity".

Gregory Marcinek, of Bedford, Texas, claims in the catalogue that the South

African authorities were notified before excavations began in 1988 and informed before export. He refers to George Chadwick, a former member of the monuments council and former chairman of its British war graves committee.

However, the council and Mr Chadwick both strenuously deny having approved removal of the artefacts, and solicitors are seeking their return, and a retraction of Mr Marcinek's claims.

George Hofmeyr, the council director, said yesterday: "The museums in Natal, our council and the KwaZulu monuments council are all up in arms against him (Mr Marcinek). Our lawyers wrote to him a month ago, but so far we have had no response. Obviously we will do all we can to have the material returned, and to prevent any further vandalism of our battlefields."

Mr Hofmeyr said excavations of historic sites are permitted only under stringent conditions, requiring a qualified archaeologist to work with the council, and separate permits for exploration and export. "Kambula

battlefield is in itself a national monument, so it is a double transgression."

Failure to comply with the regulations is punishable by two years' imprisonment and a £2,000 fine. However, it is difficult to supervise such sites, since most of them lie on privately owned farmland - as is the case at Kambula, near Vryheid in northern Natal.

Mr Marcinek says in the catalogue he conducted the dig over two years with the approval of the farmer (who now assures the council this was not the case), using farm labourers and metal detectors.

Mr Marcinek is also advertising for "adventurous companions", saying: "This year's itinerary includes the exploration and possible excavation of Intombi Drift, Hlobane, Fort Pine and the reopening of Kambula." Mr Hofmeyr is determined to prevent this.

The artefacts are from an engagement on March 29, 1879, when some 2,000 British soldiers repulsed an estimated 22,000 Zulu warriors. The Zulus lost about 2,000 and the British 29 men.

LEARNING CURVE.

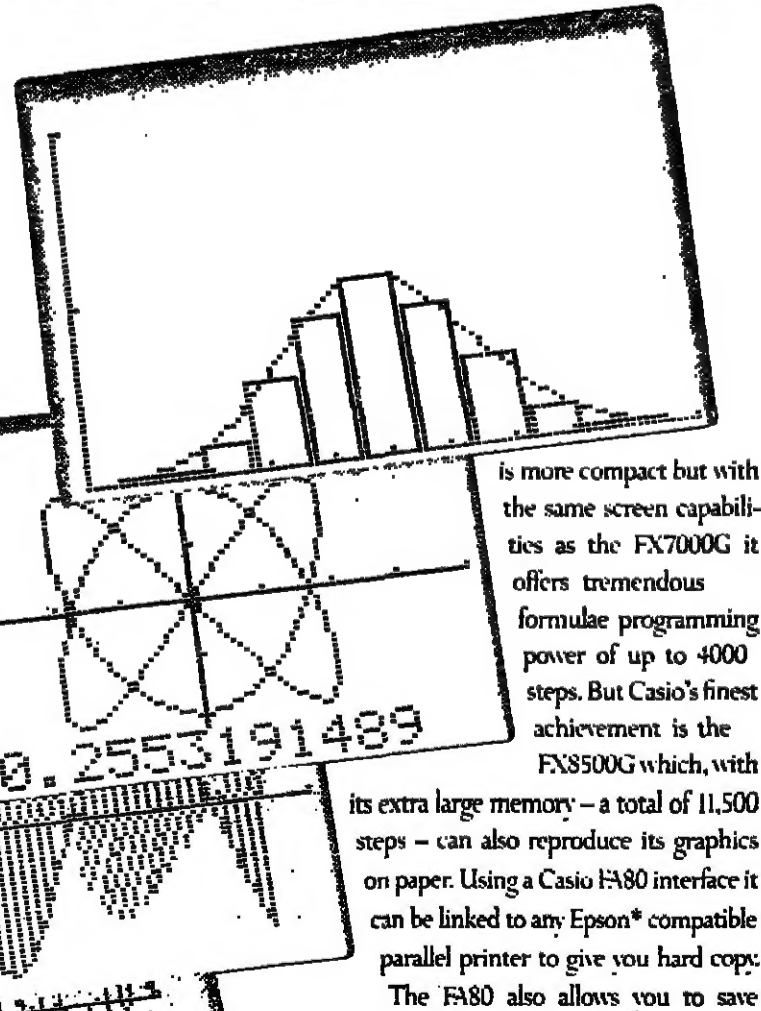
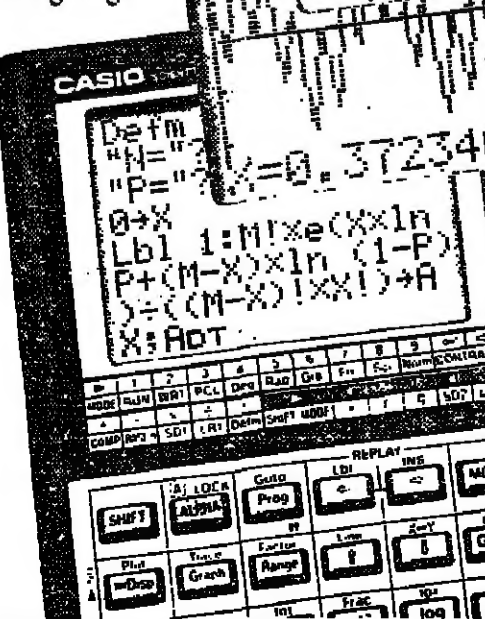
At first glance, the streamline styling and price tag of the Casio FX7000G suggest that it's a conventional calculator. In fact, it's a highly specialised problem-solver, designed with engineers, scientists and students in mind.

The 16 character by 8 line graph screen can create some stunning visual effects. More importantly, it enables the user to solve abstract mathematical problems by graphic means.

The flexible programming of the FX7000G makes a wide range of applications possible, from analysing trends to solving equations by superimposing graphs. Programme your formulae, then by simply inputting the variables, the resultant graph is immediately displayed.

Casio are the leaders in the world of graphic calculators and have stayed ahead in this technology by constantly developing its own learning curve.

The FX7500G with its unique folding design



is more compact but with the same screen capabilities as the FX7000G it offers tremendous formulae programming power of up to 4000 steps. But Casio's finest achievement is the FX8500G which, with its extra large memory - a total of 11,500 steps - can also reproduce its graphics on paper. Using a Casio FA80 interface it can be linked to any Epson* compatible parallel printer to give you hard copy.

The FA80 also allows you to save programmes, results and data on cassette tape. Casio graphic calculators are now widely approved for 16+ education, but whether you're a student, teacher, researcher, scientist or engineer you'll find a whole new learning curve in mathematics and science with these new calculators.

CASIO

FX7000G Price Guide £199.95

FX7500G Price Guide £199.95

FX8500G Price Guide £299.95

FX9500G Price Guide £399.95

FX9900G Price Guide £499.95

FX991G Price Guide £599.95

FX992G Price Guide £699.95

FX993G Price Guide £799.95

FX994G Price Guide £899.95

FX995G Price Guide £999.95

FX996G Price Guide £1099.95

FX997G Price Guide £1199.95

FX998G Price Guide £1299.95

FX999G Price Guide £1399.95

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

Sheikhdom's identity would be lost without al-Sabahs at helm



Sheikh Jaber: suspended parliament in 1986

By PETER MANSFIELD

AS THE dynastic rulers of a tiny but fabulously wealthy state the Sabah family could expect to attract a measure of hostility and dislike. But what is indisputable is that those who denied their right to govern Kuwait effectively rejected its existence as an independent state. The al-Sabahs were and are Kuwait's *raison d'être*. President Saddam Hussein of Iraq knows this, which is why his first demand was for their removal.

The al-Sabahs belonged to the Umm al-Qasbi tribe from the central Arabian plateau of Nejd, some of whom moved north and east in the 18th century to settle on the coast. In about 1730 the al-Sabahs and their Umm al-Qasbi founded Kuwait city.

For two centuries the strategic maritime sheikhdom's independence was assured by the lack of any stabilising power in the region. Although Kuwait was nominally part of the Ottoman

Empire, the Kuwaitis persuaded the Turkish administrator in Basra to leave them to look after themselves.

When at the end of the 19th century the Ottoman Sultan made one of his rare moves to assert his authority, Mubarak "the Great" (1896-1915), founder of modern Kuwait, signed the Exclusive Agreement with Britain, accepting British protection in return for excluding all other powers.

The discovery of oil in 1938 and its speedy development after the second world war transformed both Kuwait's situation and the role of the al-Sabahs. The swelling revenues gave them vastly increased economic, and therefore, political power.

The new emir, Abdullah Salem (1950-1965), insisted that the new wealth should be used to create a comprehensive welfare state with equal education for both sexes, but when in 1961, the ending of the Exclusive Agreement with Britain

gave Kuwait full independence, he took steps to turn Kuwait into a constitutional monarchy with an elected parliament.

In parliament, opposition ranged from a small but influential group of pan-Arab nationalists to more conservative Kuwaiti nationalists who pressed the government for Kuwaiti control over its oil industry.

In 1976 Sheikh Jaber Ahmad al-Sabah, who was then prime minister and crown prince, decided the parliamentary system had become unworkable and asked the emir for its suspension. But four years after he succeeded as emir in 1977, he restored parliament only to suspend it again in 1986 when the Gulf war was at its height and Kuwait was threatened.

The ending of the war revived pressure for full restoration of the constitution. Sheikh Jaber half-reluctantly agreed only last June to partial restoration with election for a provisional parliament, two-

thirds elected and one-third appointed. The former deputies insisted that only the restoration of the independence constitution would satisfy them.

The opposition to the Sabah was of two kinds. There were prominent figures both inside and outside parliament who wished to reduce the power of the Sabahs and were highly critical of some of its members. Since the Iraqi invasion we can confidently describe this as the "loyal" opposition. There was also an opposition that was not loyal - mostly among the 30 per cent Shia Muslim minority; but they were not pro-President Saddam; if anything, they favoured his arch-enemy, Ayatollah Khomeini.

The Palestinians formed the largest and longest established community among the non-Kuwaiti minority. They had no wish to overthrow the government but they did want greater security and a mistake was surely made in not

allowing them a greater say in local government affairs.

The al-Sabahs underestimated the Iraqi threat as much as they overestimated the amount of effective support they could expect from their fellow-Arabs. The Kuwaitis knew they were risking President Saddam's wrath by exceeding their quota of oil exports during the past few months. Some members of the cabinet dismissed Iraqi threats as sabre-rattling, while others thought some compromise would be necessary.

The al-Sabahs have been genuinely outraged by the attitude of Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader, and the many Palestinians who condoned the invasion and are now cheering for President Saddam. The bitter truth is that no amount of clarity towards the Palestinians would have brought lasting gratitude. The 800,000 Kuwaitis, who controlled 10 per cent of the world's oil, would

always have been considered too spoiled by God and history.

That changes in Arabia will be profound is a foregone conclusion. But what are the chances of a return to the *status quo ante* in Kuwait, and Sheikh Jaber returning to his palace? This would require either an astonishing, although not impossible, volte-face by President Saddam, or his overthrow. The al-Sabahs would return and try to pick up the pieces.

The system would also have to be changed to make Kuwait more a monarchy of the 20th century than of the 18th century. On the other hand, a republic in which the al-Sabahs had no place, would hardly survive because the basis of Kuwait's identity would be lost. That is their strongest asset.

Peter Mansfield is a Middle East specialist and author of Kuwait: Vanguard of the Gulf and The Arabs

Aziz mission to sway Moscow before summit looks doomed

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

TARIQ Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, arrived unexpectedly in Moscow yesterday in what was seen as a last-minute attempt to sway Soviet leaders before the Helsinki mini-summit on Sunday.

The visit was believed to be an Iraqi initiative. With Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, in Japan, Mr Aziz's only likely purpose was to bring a message from President Saddam Hussein. Moscow has at times cast itself as a potential mediator in the Gulf conflict and has maintained constant contact with Baghdad through diplomatic channels, but Soviet hopes that mediation could succeed seemed to fade with the failure of talks in Jordan last week between Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, and Mr Aziz.

Reporting the visit of Mr Aziz, Tass said: "Until now, no political or diplomatic contacts between Moscow and Baghdad have produced the desired result." An early

indication that Mr Aziz's latest mission is in vain came with the publication of an unprecedented joint statement by the Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers, condemning Iraq's aggression in Kuwait. Moscow yesterday offered no further official indication of its approach to this weekend's Gorbachev-Bush meeting, but Soviet commentators continued to emphasise the closeness of the Soviet and American positions.

Mr Gorbachev received Robert Dole, the senator who is leading a US congressional delegation to Moscow, and Tass gave prominence to a statement by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, to the effect that America was gratified by the Soviet response to the confrontation. There were also hints that Moscow could be looking for economic incentives to maintain its stance on Iraq. Soviet officials have stressed the losses the country will suffer from halting trade with Iraq. Soon after Moscow issued its initial condemnation of Iraq, the US announced it was lifting quotas on Soviet trade representatives in America, and it was yesterday reported that Washington is preparing a package for the Soviet Union that could be worth several million dollars in farm credits.

Stanislav Kondrashov, a respected newspaper commentator, said that economic factors could be the main reason why Moscow is reluctant to withdraw its estimated 6,500 economic and military specialists from Iraq, which owes the Soviet Union \$6 billion (£3.1 billion). Baghdad might use the pretext of broken contracts to refuse to pay this back, he said.

● TOKYO: Japan, which has been slow to respond to events in the Gulf, said yesterday it was considering whether to send unarmed troops to the region, and later issued a rare joint statement with the Soviet Union condemning Iraq's invasion (Joe Joseph writes).

In a joint communiqué, the first in more than 50 years on a non-bilateral issue, Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister who is visiting Tokyo, and Taro Nakayama, his Japanese counterpart, said: "The two countries share the recognition that Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and its annexation by Iraq contradict basic principles of international law and the United Nations Charter." The statement added that collective efforts to solve such regional strife, would help in the search for a new international order in the post-Cold War era. The communiqué stopped short of outlining specific joint action.

Earlier, Misoji Sakamoto, chief cabinet secretary, said that the government was "considering whether and to what extent the self-defence forces should play a role in achieving peace in the Gulf". Responding to Washington's request for help, Japan yesterday loaded a carrier in Nagoya with 800 four-wheel-drive cars and lorries and air conditioners, due for Saudi Arabia.

Leading article, page 11

Amman journalists walk out on Hurd after row over policy

FROM ANDREW MC EWEN IN AMMAN

STRONG differences between Britain and Jordan over Amman's equivocal position after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, were emphasised yesterday when more than 50 local journalists walked out of a press conference given by Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary.

Salim Maani, a spokesman for the journalists, harangued Mr Hurd, who sat looking embarrassed as television cameras recorded the scene. Mr Maani said the walkout was a protest against Britain's policy towards Iraq and its "double standard" in failing to show equal firmness towards the

Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. "Your policy towards Iraq and the Arab states illustrates that it is your strategy to humiliate Arabs and keep them slaves," he said.

Mr Hurd said the walkout was "symbolic of a rather limited understanding of the purposes of a press conference". He emphasised, however, the strong support for Baghdad among the Palestinians, who make up almost half of Jordan's population of three million.

In talks with King Hussein and Crown Prince Hassan, Mr Hurd urged Jordan to implement fully the United Nations embargo. He also showed reservations about

the king's approach towards a negotiated solution.

While Amman continued to deny that it had made any firm proposals, the king is understood to have suggested a simultaneous withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait, and American and other foreign forces from Saudi Arabia, followed by talks within six months.

Mr Hurd said the Jordanians told him their position had been misunderstood. They wanted a full withdrawal from Kuwait and the reinstatement of the Kuwaiti government, which he understood to be unconditional demands. However, Amman also believed that wider issues should be discussed at the same time, while Mr

Hurd said these should be left until later.

A senior Jordanian official said the king's plans to hold a further round of talks with President Saddam Hussein showed the value of Jordan's policy of remaining on civil terms with Baghdad. But Britain and America see his mission as an unhelpful diversion, giving an impression that a compromise might be acceptable.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed Jordan was still receiving 90 per cent of its oil from Iraq by road tankers. It was ready to reduce this to 50 per cent, but that would depend on compensation from the United Nations. Amman has

submitted a claim for losses stemming from sanctions, which the official said would amount to \$2 billion (£1.26 billion) a year. Mr Hurd made it clear Britain would support a request for compensation only if Amman fully implemented the embargo.

The official said Jordan was already doing so, with the exception of the oil supplies. All other trade had been stopped. Mr Hurd implied he accepted this assurance.

Mr Hurd was pressed to explain why Britain was opposed to a Soviet proposal for a wide-ranging international conference to deal with Kuwait and other issues. He replied: "What purpose do you

think such a conference would serve? There have been conferences galore." He defended the quick action the West had taken to deploy forces in the area. "To have done nothing would have been the Munich approach to danger," he said.

Saudi Arabia's defence minister was quoted as saying last week that his country would not allow its territory to be used for an attack on Iraq. But Mr Hurd said that, after talks with King Fahd in Jeddah on Tuesday, there were no differences between them. Both wanted to bring about the withdrawal of Iraq by peaceful means, but neither excluded the use of force if it became inevitable.



Calming influence: a Jordanian soldier using his belt to disperse Asian refugees feeding over food and water near Ruweisid camp

JORDAN

Violence stalks refugees' aid scramble

FROM JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN RUWEISID

AFTER tent number 149 at the Ruweisid Bridge camp fell into Filipino hands following a brawl with a group of Pakistanis, Rolando Campos, a stocky car mechanic, made a victorious gesture of sharpening a tent stake with a stone.

It took just a few minutes for one of the other group to produce a short-bladed knife, made from an empty sardine can. Three Jordanian soldiers then appeared, waving leather belts and sent people into their tents to avert a confrontation. Later, inside the tent he shares with 13 other men and women, Mr Campos buried the stake. "I know they will try to get us out," he said. "But I am prepared for those wolves."

Violence in its most primitive form is brewing in the refugee camps that have sprung up in the rocky desert strip between the

Iraqi and Jordanian borders, where nearly 80,000 Asians who fled Kuwait are waiting to be repatriated. In an attempt to avoid friction, food and water are distributed separately to each community, but this does not always help. The shortage of supplies is such that theft and assault are common.

"The ingredients for disaster are here," Jhal Khawar, a Jordanian relief official, said, pointing to makeshift Filipino, Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani and Sri Lankan flags fluttering in the hot wind. "Unless they are taken home soon, desperation and cultural differences could turn this place into a battlefield."

On Tuesday, three Sri Lankans were injured when a group of Thai teenagers assaulted them as they carried water to their tents, doctors at the camp said. Religious

intolerance is also fuelling tension. Filipinos have been harassed by Muslims at the bigger Shalaan One camp, 21 miles east of Ruweisid, because of the sleeveless blouses they wear. "We are so afraid that we do not go out any more," said Anita Castelo, aged 34, a bank clerk from Manila. Her husband says he too has sharpened a tent stake.

● AMMAN: Werner Kasper, head of the International Committee of the Red Cross delegation in Jordan, yesterday expressed strong concern about conditions in the two border camps (Andrew McEwen writes).

"We think the situation has become very, very serious," he said. The delegation has set up tanks with adequate water supplies, but there are distribution difficulties. "If a pump breaks down it could have dramatic

consequences." He said five tanks sent by Oxfam, each capable of holding 45,000 litres, were due to arrive yesterday.

Work started at the beginning of the week on a relief camp at Azraq, halfway between the border post at Ruweisid and Amman. "A tent city for 30,000 people with electricity and water should be ready by Monday and will relieve some of the pressure," Mr Kasper said. Britain contributed £500,000 to the Red Cross effort last month, and gave 25,000 blankets and 2½ tonnes of medicines on Tuesday, plus contributing £770,000 towards a fund of 5.5m euros given by the EC.

● GENEVA: United Nations agencies have raised about \$20 million for refugee relief, a spokesman for the UN Disaster Relief Organisation, which is co-ordinating the effort, said yesterday (Alan McGregor writes).

However, bureaucratic in-fighting among the UN and other Geneva-based relief organisations is hampering a united effort. The International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies are doing their own fund-raising, as is the International Organisation for Migration, which has raised \$11 million in government grants from Norway, Canada, Switzerland and Australia. A spokesman said Britain "has asked for instructions as to where to send money", so a contribution is expected.

Cornelio Summaruga, president of the ICRC, met President Saddam Hussein in Iraq this week, to discuss not only aid for refugees, but also possible Red Cross involvement with the hostages, sources said.

● ROME: The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN will provide more than 3,000 tonnes of food, worth \$2 million, for refugees in response to an appeal from Jordan (Paul Bonapard writes). This is expected to feed refugees for three months.

BRITAIN

Kuwait says Husain will pay for his mistakes

By MICHAEL KNIFE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

SHEIKH Saad al-Abdullah al-Sabah, the crown prince and prime minister of Kuwait, said in London yesterday that it would be for the United Nations Security Council to decide next week the next measures to bring about Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the legitimate government.

But he castigated King Hussein of Jordan, lauded the stance of Mrs Thatcher, appealed to President Bush and President Gorbachev to focus their attention on this primary issue and avoided disclosing his view of the essentially defensive posture adopted by Saudi Arabia. He had been asked whether he considered another security council resolution necessary to force Iraq to back down and how he regarded Saudi Arabia's clearly stated view that the multinational force on its territory was defensive.

The security council would be discussing next week the report of Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the secretary-general, the prince said, and it would be for the council to decide whether a further resolution would be necessary.

The prince said he hoped the UN sanctions and blockade would achieve the desired objective. He could not attach a time scale to that but if necessary, "we'll fight and struggle and fight again with all our friends and Arab brothers".

Asked whether he welcomed King Hussein's attempts to keep channels of communications open with Iraq, and whether he envisaged supporting Jordan financially, as Kuwait had done in the past, the prince said: "The king has to bear the consequences of his own policies and the serious mistakes he has made."

He was fulsome in his praise of Mrs Thatcher. He had come out of his meeting with the prime minister two days ago "very satisfied", he said, and he expressed the gratitude of Kuwaitis "at a popular level and an official level for the great support given to us by the government and people of Great Britain".

Sheikh al-Sabah, who wore his traditional gold-trimmed robes and head-dress, conducted the press conference with calm dignity and only when he was directly referring to President Saddam Hussein of Iraq did bitterness creep in.

Kuwait had supported Iraq's military build up "believing that in due course it would help liberate occupied Palestine, but used ruthlessly the Iraqi army was used against our country".

Asked if, by supporting Iraq, Kuwait had not helped create the military strength that had devoured it, the prince said no Kuwaiti would have imagined that as soon as he had finished with the war with Iran, the Iraqi leader would send his troops into Kuwait. "I have met with Saddam Hussein so many times and talked to him so many times... and he has assured me so many times in different places and different occasions. He said to me quite frankly that whatever problems we had, military, political or economic, would be sorted out and settled in brotherly fashion. He assured me there would never be a day when Iraq would send its forces to invade Kuwait."

Handwritten note in Arabic: "هذا هو اصل" (This is the original)

THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE MIDDLE EAST

Baker sketches plan for Gulf policing force after victory

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, has floated the idea of a new Middle East regional security structure to contain Iraq once it is ousted from Kuwait. He suggested the international co-operation engendered by the invasion could become a "springboard" for ending the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and establishing a new order in the region.

In appearances before the House and Senate foreign affairs committees over the past two days, Mr Baker gave only an outline of his thinking, but suggested such a security structure would involve "major Arab participation", backed by a long-term US military presence, probably naval. It would seek a new balance of power in the Middle East. This would require a continued international arms embargo against Iraq, and the strengthening of the military forces of moderate Arab nations.

Referring to Iraq's chemical, biological and incipient nuclear warfare capabilities, Mr Baker said it should be possible to create a security structure "that would make it so clearly to the detriment of any subsequent leader or even the present leader to use or even contemplate using any of those weapons that there would be very little risk that they would be used".

Mr Baker envisaged using the international response to

the Iraqi invasion as a "springboard" not only for curbing the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons in the region, but also for fresh efforts "to resolve the conflicts which lie at the root of such proliferation, including the festering conflict between Israel and its Palestinian and Arab neighbours". It was not just enough to demonstrate that aggression did not pay. "We must show that a pathway to reconciliation and peace does exist and that it can be found with good will and good faith on all sides," he said.

Moderate Arab states will certainly expect Washington to put pressure on Israel in return for their opposition to Iraq. Mr Baker wants to continue his frustrated efforts to promote Israeli-Palestinian talks. Though the PLO has damaged the chances of such a dialogue by supporting Iraq, Mr Baker said he believed a "reassessment" of that position was under way.

Mr Baker's congressional appearances, the first by any administration official since the confrontation began, did much to dispel the fog that has obscured the administration's longer-term aims and strategy. He played down the prospect of war. He talked up the potential of diplomacy. He said US objectives included the removal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait and the restoration

of the legitimate Kuwaiti government, but did not extend to the toppling of President Saddam or the destruction of Iraq's war machine. The idea of a regional security structure appeared to be a direct retort to those who say such destruction is essential to ensure that Iraq never again threatens its neighbours.

Warning against negotiations, Mr Baker said: "We don't buy this idea that some are pushing today that you've got to find a way to give Saddam Hussein a face-saving way out, give him something that would in effect reward him for his aggression." Responding to those who argue that the US should not be seeking to restore a feudal monarchy, Mr Baker said the US objective was to restore the legitimate government of Kuwait. He indicated that Washington might support moves towards democracy in the Middle East in future, but for now the US would not allow dictators to force political change in other countries.

Senators and congressmen praised the administration's handling of the confrontation, but their common concern was that America's allies should accept a much greater share of the burden.

Michael Howard, page 10
Leading article, page 11



Safe and sound: Mrs Ans Ibrahim carrying her two-week old baby daughter, Yasmin, after arriving at Gatwick airport on the Virgin flight from Amman yesterday. Yasmin was born while her mother was held captive in the Gulf

BRITAIN

Second hostage group to set out in convoy today

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT AND MARK SOUSTER

A MESSAGE announcing another large-scale road convoy from Kuwait to Baghdad for women and children was broadcast on the BBC World Service last night. The convoy was due to leave from the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kuwait city at 0500 BST today.

The successful arrival in Baghdad of a first convoy of seven coaches and two cars carrying 300 women and children, which set out from Kuwait on Tuesday, is expected to reassure those still in Kuwait about joining the new convoy. Sources in Whitehall expect between 200 and 300 people will join it.

The Foreign Office disclosed yesterday that 30 British women and children who tried to join Tuesday's convoy were seized by the Iraqis. Details were not known yesterday but sources in Whitehall believed that they were probably taken at road checkpoints by low-level military units which had not received word from their superiors to allow those attempting to depart to reach the convoy's designated assembly point.

The women and children seized were initially being held at the Menden Hotel in Kuwait, which has been used by the Iraqi authorities for the past month as a detention centre for Western foreigners. A Foreign Office spokesman said there was no suggestion they were maltreated.

Tuesday's convoy was met by British embassy officials as it arrived in Baghdad. The passengers disembarked at the Mansour Melia hotel where British diplomats were initially denied access to them. But after the diplomats returned to the embassy the convoy arrived at the embassy gates where diplomats were able to check that the passengers were all right.

Yesterday embassy officials were doing their best to facilitate the issuing by the Iraqi authorities of exit visas for the Britons. The women who had arrived in the convoy described the intense discomfort of the 500-mile journey. This included some of the children suffering from travel sickness and the fear of being detained at roadblocks.

An early group of 24 British women and children to arrive in Baghdad from Kuwait were yesterday granted exit visas and put on board an Iraqi Airways aircraft chartered by France which flew to Amman. It was hoped to connect with an Air France charter from Amman to Paris.

Meanwhile, another plane-load of British women and children returned from the Gulf yesterday having escaped from Iraq to Jordan. Among the 105 hostages who arrived at Gatwick from Amman were 57 Britons, 29 Americans, four Australians and two Canadians. They returned on a Virgin Atlantic Boeing 747 which had brought in 30 tons of food and medical supplies.

Richard Branson, the head of Virgin, criticised the French ambassador in Jordan, who he said had refused to agree to a deal for Virgin to take French hostages from Baghdad to Paris.

Letters, page 11

ISRAEL

West Bank problem will still demand attention

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S confident assertion that the Gulf events have pushed the Palestinian issue to one side was called into question yesterday as Israeli newspapers gave a warning that the Helsinki summit could lead to an understanding between Washington and Moscow on the need to resolve all Middle East conflicts, including Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

David Levy, Israel's foreign minister, yesterday met James Baker, the US Secretary of State, in Washington to press for increased American military aid and to argue that the Palestine Liberation Organisation's support for President Saddam Hussein has ruled it out as a negotiating partner. But the newspaper *Maariv* reported that President Gorbachev will propose to President Bush that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait should be accompanied by an Israeli withdrawal from the territories. Officially, Washington has



Levy: demand for arms to keep 'qualitative edge'

rejected "linkage" between the Gulf conflict and the West Bank. President Saddam has offered parallel talks on Iraq's occupation of Palestinian land and the Syrian presence in Lebanon. The Iraqi leader argued that the United Nations had been quick to move against Iraq yet had still not evicted Israel from the West Bank after 23 years.

The United States, like Israel, rejects any such anal-

ogy. US officials agree that Israel's control of the territories was not the result of an act of aggression but of the 1967 war in which Israel was attacked. Washington also shares the Israeli view that the support given by Yasser Arafat, the PLO chairman, to President Saddam has damaged the PLO's image, undoing a two-year diplomatic campaign by Mr Arafat to present himself as a moderate.

"Qatar is expelling Palestinians and Abu Dhabi has refused to let Arafat's plane land to refuel," one Israeli official said. "You can hardly expect Israel to be kinder to Arafat than the Gulf Arabs."

But beneath the jubilation of Israel's government, is an undertone of anxiety. The newspaper *Haaretz* yesterday took to task Boutros Boutros Ghali, minister of state at the Egyptian foreign ministry, for saying that "the real crisis affecting the region is rooted in the Palestinian problem". He said that Israel's refusal to further the peace process had "created a background of instability even before the Gulf crisis erupted". Israeli officials are worried that Mr Baker also takes this view.

Despite disavowals, Washington might be tempted to agree with Moscow and the moderate Arab states, led by Egypt, that all Middle East issues should be tackled in a bid to stabilise a volatile region once and for all.

Diplomats said that discussion of a Palestinian delegation to peace talks with Israel was "on ice" after the collapse of the Likud-Labour coalition in March over US proposals for Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo. But Israel is aware that Mr Baker does not regard the Palestinian issue as marginal. This week he told Congress that the Kuwaiti issue could be "a springboard for revived efforts to resolve the conflicts which lie at the root of regional instability".

These included, he said, "the proliferation of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons, and the festering conflict between Israel and its Palestinian and Arab neighbours".

This has points in common with the Soviet proposal for a comprehensive international peace conference, reiterated by Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, on Tuesday. Mr Shamir at first welcomed Mr Shevardnadze's remarks, believing they referred to a conference on the Gulf only, but later categorically rejected the initiative.

On the Gulf conflict itself, Israel is worried Washington might settle for a compromise short of the removal of President Saddam, leaving Baghdad free to develop its nuclear weapons programme and build up its threat to Israel. Mr Levy emphasised Israel's demand for advanced weapons to maintain its "qualitative edge" and to compensate for the supply to Saudi Arabia of \$2 billion (about £1.07 billion) of sophisticated armaments. In addition, Israel wants Washington to write off Israel's \$4.5 billion debt, following its decision to forgive Egypt's debt of \$7 billion.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fighting men put faith in Koran

FROM NICHOLAS DEESTON IN DHAHRAN

LIEUTENANT Samir Saleh believes the best protection for Saudi Arabia against the threat of an Iraqi attack is in the top left pocket of his combat jacket.

"This is what will defeat Saddam," he said, producing a small Koran, copies of which he is distributing to Saudi Arabia's frontline troops. "We do not need US help, we only need faith in Allah," said the young cleric, who acts as a Muslim version of an army chaplain.

Just as the Mujahedin of Afghanistan sent the Soviet soldiers home, so we will defeat the Iraqis.

The casual dismissal of Western military aid would probably not find great support among his countrymen, who have by and large welcomed the arrival of American forces to defend their country and the two holiest shrines in Islam at Mecca and Medina.

But the enthusiasm he displays for going to war would certainly strike a chord with thousands of young Saudis who have responded to King Fahd's call-up appeal.

Young men are queuing every morning at the Khalidia national guard barracks near here to volunteer to defend the country which only came into being after the first world war.

ing, the spirit of war has infected the nation and every young man now wants to be seen in uniform.

If anything, the Saudis, urged on by constant televised coverage of their forces in the field, have displayed an even more pugnacious attitude than the notoriously "gun-ho" US ground forces.

"When are we going in to destroy the Iraqis?" one Saudi asked recently, mistaking me for a foreign soldier and bemoaning the use of diplomacy to solve the Gulf conflict.

What military advantage Saudi Arabia hopes to gain from the addition of as many as 40,000 new part-time soldiers to its force of 65,000 men remains unclear. At one training centre in the eastern province, new recruits did not fill their training officers with great confidence. Some young men, obviously unfit and unused to any exertion, found themselves trapped in a barbed-wire obstacle course, while others opted to run round a hand-to-hand combat dummy rather than plunge their bayonets in.

Expatriates working here tend to greet the Saudi appetite for battle with some cynicism, pointing out that the country has never been at war and has tended in the past to pay off its potential enemies rather than fight.

"I have fought in a war and, believe me, if these people knew what it was like, they would not be quite so enthusiastic," remarked one Pakistani visitor.

The future.
Now available
in weekly
instalments.

Tomorrow never comes. Perhaps that's why other magazines and newspapers don't concern themselves with the future.

New Scientist, though, takes a different view. By covering every area of current scientific develop-

ment, we can help you to understand the changes and challenges that lie ahead. This not only makes interesting reading but also affects

newScientist

the plans and decisions you make today. For instance, if we tell you that New Scientist comes out on Thursdays, you can already start to plan for the future. By ordering a copy in advance. Get on top of tomorrow.

John O'Leary

MacGregor on a limb

Of all the main elements of the school system, the only one that has been imperious to the tide of Conservative education reform is the A level. Yesterday's proposed revision by the government's examination advisers, though thoughtful it was, will sanction few fundamental changes. It was never intended to.

The prime minister has declared the A level to be the gold standard of the education system, and soon overruled the education department in sealing the fate of the last reform package, in 1988. Michael Fallon, her new schools minister, quelled any doubts about the current exercise with a promise not to weaken, modify or otherwise "muck about" with the exam. The School Examinations and Assessment Council (SEAC) could make what recommendations it liked so long as they added up to more of the same.

Immediate pressure for change evaporated last month when the first set of A level students have taken the GCSE confounded the sceptics with results that showed an improvement on 1989. But their successes have only confirmed another group of critics in the view that standards are falling.

Under the circumstances, the secondary head teachers' view that SEAC made a brave attempt at the impossible with its package of mild reform may not be far wide of the mark. Encouraging mid-course assessment and allowing schools to award a proportion of the final mark for course-work may be seen by traditionalists as the thin end of the wedge, but it amounts to little more than a recognition of a wedge already in place. A level syllabuses have emphasised course-work have drawn applications in such numbers that their spread is inevitable.

John MacGregor, the education secretary, may nod in the direction of the standards lobby by reducing the maximum course-work assessment allowed in schools, but there is no prospect of a return to universal reliance on a single examination. This year's results may have been good, but most educationists still believe more continuity is needed between GCSE and A level. Mr MacGregor will be content to allow the examining boards freedom to bring the two closer together, as long as standards do not appear to suffer.

This, of course, is where the battle will be in the months ahead. There have frequently been allegations, some by leading head teachers, that A levels are becoming easier, but all are anecdotal. Academic rigour means different things to different people, and the boards insist that the changing nature of some subjects — especially in science, where knowledge is increasing so fast — is as much responsible for the swing away from the old emphasis on the absorbing of facts as any

knock-on effect of the GCSE. Mr MacGregor himself is demanding some reform, and insisting that core skills, including communication, problem-solving and personal capability, be measured at A level. Modern language competence and familiarity with information technology are also among the government's requirements. Ministers hope to achieve these aims partly by broadening the curriculum through the use of AS levels, encouraging sixth formers to take varied subjects at different levels.

So far, however, there is little sign of schools adopting such an approach, despite an increase in the number of AS level entries this year. The universities, which are usually blamed for stifling exam reform, have supported the change this time, as well as backing the 1988 plans for five "leaner but tougher" A levels to replace the conventional three. They are conscious of the need for more qualified applicants to enable them to fulfil their own expansion plans at a time of demographic decline among 18-year-olds.

The demand now in the educational establishment is for a thorough re-examination of the post-GCSE scene. Richard Pring, professor of education at Oxford University, is the latest to put the case. At a conference yesterday he decried the "fumbling" approach to reform. "It is quite obvious to me if not to anyone else," he said, "that post-16 reforms should have begun with a look at post-16 provision as a whole, and not with the reform of A levels," whatever claims are made about integration with vocational courses.

The SEAC proposals to link some vocational courses with appropriate A levels will satisfy him as little as it will satisfy traditionalists such as Nick Season, chairman of the Campaign for Real Education, who fears that the reforms will make A levels "as meaningless as GCSE". Mr MacGregor is caught between irreconcilable demands, with some of the more obvious options (such as development of a British baccalaureate) already ruled out.

He is committed to a review of A levels and AS levels that will preserve standards while establishing a link with GCSE and continuing towards the Tories' target of doubling the proportion of young people going on to higher education. The standard at which A level is pitched is of crucial importance to his other objectives. Yet while theoretically he retains control through SEAC, the drift towards more course-work already sanctioned by the examining boards shows how the system can evolve without his direct intervention. That has always been the cross education secretaries have had to bear, and it will be no different with A levels, regardless of reviews.

...and moreover

CLEMENT FREUD

To shuck or not to shuck, that was the question. There being an "I" in the month, we shucked. Michael Fish the weather man. Peter Manzi, who does it more quickly than anyone, and I. You put the oyster into your left hand, grip the short sharp dagger with which you prise apart the shell in your right, find the place where the upper and lower halves are most separable, jam in and turn the blade, and hope that what opens will be the mollusc rather than the length of your thumb.

Natives are back; do not go to Colchester without a lemon wedge. (For the record, grouse are back also: on the 12th and subsequent days of any month containing a "g" they make their reappearance. You pluck grouse while you shuck oysters. Five letter words ending in -uck are socially acceptable.)

The most envied man in the kitchen in which I served my apprenticeship was William the Oysterer — receiver of four months a year paid summer holiday. Annually on April 30 he would wrap his knives in his leather apron, secure the parcel in oiled silk and do his farewell lap of honour around the stoves, extending his horny, finger-depleted right hand to his friends in the fish, sauce, soup and roast departments. "One two three" he said; it was his only joke — shorthand for "see you on September 1", for man's inhumanity to oyster takes a 123-day breather in the summer months.

There is rhythm in the way Mr Manzi opens natives: he is like a smooth one-man production line. Mr Fish is new to the game and tries to use both hands and his teeth to get the shell open. I massage, though am steadily surprised when it works and particularly inept when it comes to cutting the beast from its mooring and flipping it onto its best side.

In the professional kitchen, the oysterer's job is some way down the social totipotency pole: above the genuinely low-life kitchen porters, plungers and silver-room men, but still megamillions beneath the white-clad elite who wear starched hats of a height becoming to their station. The Jonnion who decrees where different classes of staff

shall eat placed him with us apprentices, and daily during the months of his operation he would bring to our feast oysters that were too small, too milky or too damaged to sell to customers; these, with overcooked steak from roast, a double-ordered sole bonnie from fish, a garbure of-the-day that insufficient punters had ordered from soup, formed our meal. I was keen on oysters. Had been told they were an aphrodisiac; knew a Welsh boy who said "if you don't swallow them quickly, you get a stiff neck". Believed him.

At Green's and at Wheeler's — where I sampled the new season's crop — Aphrodite was not mentioned, which is sensible. The theory that certain foods turn you on is a fraud: I have seen men remain unmoved after a meal of bivalves, ginseng and mint-tee, yet on other occasions become seriously excited on sago pudding. What matters is the identity of the person who shares your repast.

By the time Mr Manzi had opened two dozen of the brutes, I had managed six: Mr Fish was trailing. Onlookers clapped politely. Below us, where William at the Dorchester in days of yore had a wooden barrel to collect the juice and splinters that issued from his handiwork, we had a stainless steel sink. A pity. For the month that I worked on soup, the barrel was one of my daily ports of call: Billybi (spelt in many other ways also) was my chef's speciality. It is a bisque made by incorporating oyster juices and particles, dry white wine and double cream: reducing this by boiling, thickening it with a little *beurre manie* — a rounded teaspoon of flour rubbed into a rounded desert spoon of butter — seasoning with cayenne pepper and straining into a soup tureen.

Odd thing, but the above recipe does more for me than "the music still singing in her head rose to a crescendo as her parted lips yielded to his. Her fingers clung for support to the material of his shirt, her pliant body moving in whatever way his whim demanded."

For some of us, Mills & Boon trail way behind Epicurus and Escoffier.

Digging in for the duration

Michael Howard believes victory in the Gulf will go to the side best able to play a waiting game — and that the US and allies must refrain from force because time is with them

So far, so good. In his opening moves in the Gulf, President Bush has hardly put a foot wrong. He rapidly retrieved the initial *faux pas* of invoking Article 51 of the UN Charter to justify unilateral American action, and went on to secure virtually unanimous UN approval for an effective blockade. He has built up a majority against Saddam Hussein within the Arab world, and won the guarded approval of both the Soviet Union and China. For the moment no further decisions are called for. It will take some weeks to complete the military build-up, and it will be some months before the blockade becomes effective. The president can congratulate himself that so far he has not, as he put it, made the wrong mistakes.

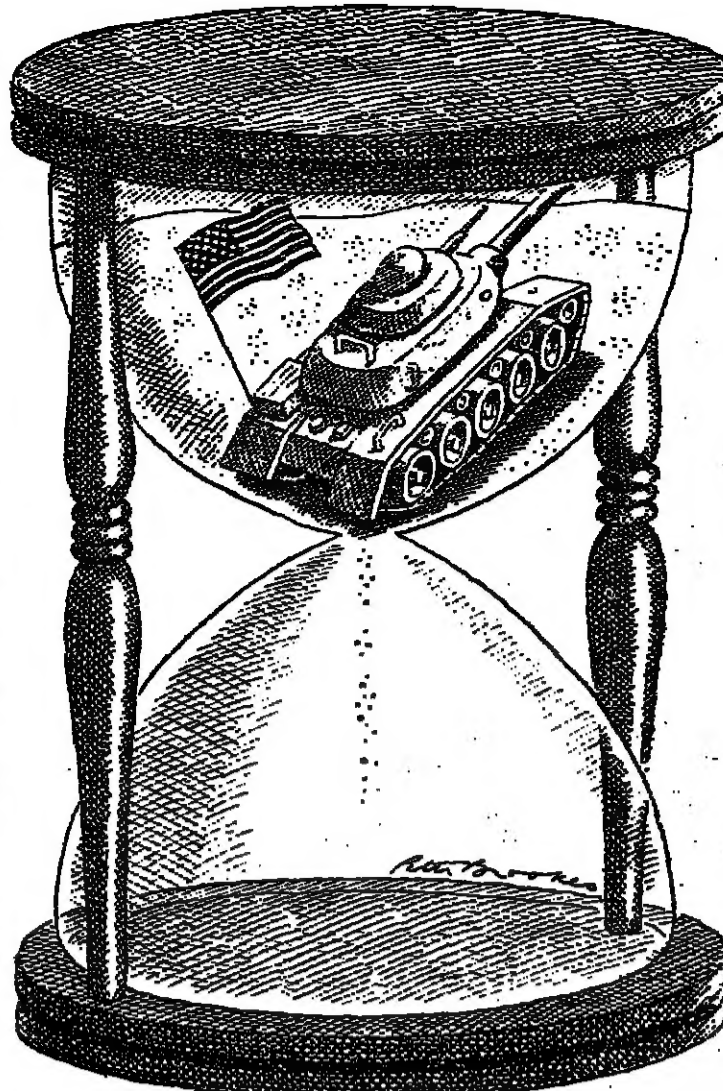
But the difficult part is now beginning. Optimists hope for one of two outcomes. One is a blockade so effective that Saddam has to withdraw from Kuwait — or, better still, is overthrown by elements in his own government. The other is a small war in which American technology destroys the Iraqi war machine in a matter of days, with minimal casualties to Americans, incidentally "zapping" Saddam in his Baghdad bunker. But it is remarkable, and salutary, how few such optimists now seem to be around.

The pessimists pose more sombre alternatives. One is a blockade that Saddam can survive by rationing and blockade-running via overland and air deliveries, but which would inflict hardships on his "foreign guests" and receive full media coverage. As month succeeds month, world interest in maintaining the blockade might slacken. UN solidarity might erode as other issues grab the headlines, and the question of Kuwaiti independence might become an archaic legalism like that of Tibet. A new turn of events in the Middle East might make Saddam once more appear to Washington as a desirable ally. Order things have happened. Given sufficient patience, Saddam

could possibly get away with it. The pessimists' other fear is a war in which the Americans find themselves on their own, suffering (by their standards) heavy casualties, domestically divided and drained economically. Saddam could play the cards of chemical warfare, exposure of hostages and escalation into an Arab-Israeli conflict. Such a war would be a disaster even if the Americans won, for it would leave a legacy of hatred throughout the Middle East and would destabilise the economy of the industrial world. To start a war without appreciating that it might turn out this way would be lunacy.

Many hope that Saddam will take the burden of choice off Mr Bush's shoulders by an act so provocative that the entire UN will feel bound collectively to respond. Unfortunately, so shrewd an operator is unlikely to do us any such favour. Nor does Mr Bush have the option exercised by President Johnson in 1964 at the time of the Gulf of Tonkin incident: seizing on or provoking a minor clash as an excuse for a major escalation. American opinion is now too sophisticated and its allies are too sceptical to buy that one again. If he is to keep public opinion behind him and the United Nations united, Mr Bush must continue to play — or be seen to play — strictly by the book.

But playing by the book involves a further dilemma. The book — that is the UN resolutions — calls for Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the "legitimate" regime. It says nothing about the overthrow of Saddam, and unless Saddam behaves far more provocatively than hitherto, any such action is unlikely to command majority support in the Security Council. A purely Western attempt to oust him would be seen as blatant colonialism, akin to the British attempt to topple Nasser in 1956. Yet even if he withdraws from Kuwait, Saddam will remain a danger. His open ambition, his



military strength and his lack of scruple in using it all make him a permanent threat to the stability of the region. Would a return to the *status quo ante bellum* really provide a satisfactory resolution to the crisis? Or was the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, like the German attack on Belgium in 1914 or on Poland in 1939, symptomatic of a deeper problem requiring more drastic surgery?

These are the questions Mr Bush has been wrestling with, and he seems to have come up with the right answers. The first is to continue to keep in line with his allies. Quite properly he is demanding greater contributions from them, but the more contributions they make, the greater becomes their right to be consulted. The Soviet Union may not be quite an ally but its advice

and consent are of major importance. The more the United States is seen as the agent of the international community, and not simply of the rich industrial nations of the West, the easier will be the isolation of Saddam Hussein and the more effective the pressures brought to bear on him.

Militarily, unless Saddam provokes hostilities, Mr Bush seems to have decided simply to sweat it out. It is suggested that the American people do not have the patience for a prolonged confrontation, but the suggestion usually comes from journalists (not only American) who cannot bear the prospect of months going by with no striking headlines. In fact the American people will probably be no different from anyone else in their reactions. For them, waiting will not involve any real hardship,

and they are unlikely to seek relief in a pre-emptive war. They are no longer the gung-ho romantics of the Kennedy generation, prepared to endure any sacrifice in the cause of freedom.

They learned from Vietnam that wars go on for an unpredictable length of time and involve an unpredictable number of people — and not always the right people — being killed. This time, moreover, many American civilians will be at risk. Under these circumstances they are likely to be patient for as long as it takes.

Mr Bush will thus get as much domestic support for a policy of caution as he will from his allies. That is not to say that war may not come through some unpredictable turn of events. If it does, it is unlikely to stop short of the total defeat of Saddam. Even if they were to limit their military objectives to the liberation of Kuwait, the Americans would need first to strike, and keep striking, at the source of Iraqi air power, and that must involve substantial collateral damage. Saddam might eventually be destroyed but, as with Hitler, a great deal else would have been destroyed as well. And then what?

On balance the dangers of initiating war — initiating rather than accepting it if forced upon us — are thus much greater than those of remaining at peace. Since Saddam is likely to see things the same way, we may have to expect a prolonged confrontation and ensure that his nerve is the first to crack. But that does not mean negotiation. As Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general, has discovered, there is nothing to negotiate about. Either Iraq conforms to the UN resolutions or it does not. Once it does, negotiations can take place about its future relations with Kuwait.

Nor does it mean an "Arab solution". There has already been an Arab League by a majority vote, has condemned Iraq, endorsed the UN resolutions and accepted the presence of foreign troops to enforce them. It means waiting patiently until Saddam either capitulates or initiates military action. Ultimately time is on our side, and he knows it.

As for Saddam's own future, that is best left to his own people and to his neighbours. They do not have a tradition of being kind to failures.

Sir Michael Howard is Robert E. Lester Professor of Modern History at Yale University.

Marc Weller explains how the Kuwaiti delegation to the UN shot its country in the foot

The legal right to fight surrendered

Under Article 51 of the UN Charter, which is bound to be cited by all sides in the Commons debate on the Gulf today, self-defence can be invoked in response to an armed attack only "until the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to maintain international peace and security". According to Washington's controversial interpretation, it is not up to the Security Council to determine whether it has taken the "measures necessary"; individual states remain free to decide. And although the exiled emir has so far asked only for military help in enforcing the blockade, Britain was announced that technically, "we would have legal authority to take further measures" under Article 51, and also by the request of the ruler of Kuwait that we do everything possible to recover his territory.

This argument has never really been tested, since up to now the cold war and the stifling veto of the permanent members of the Security Council has precluded enforcement measures. For example, when the Falklands were invaded, the UN was unable to agree collective measures, and the

right to self-defence was used by Britain. But now the UN has adopted tough sanctions and provided for their enforcement.

However, the far-sighted legal advisers at the US State Department inserted a clause into the text of the first economic sanctions resolution, 661, which reserved Kuwait's right under Article 51. Little attention was paid to that provision by most members of the council, for there was no reason to expect unilateral actions when the UN members were unprecedentedly united.

The risk of losing this wide international support prompted Washington and London to go back to the UN to ask for a mandate to cover the naval blockade, which had aroused disagreement in the Security Council. But a reference in another US draft resolution on the blockade which could have been interpreted as hinting at the right to self-defence, had to be deleted. A Kuwaiti delegate to the UN consoled himself by saying that "the language of Resolution 665 was the product of compromise between

the superpowers — no wonder that things had to be taken out."

Despite these reassuring amendments, it took the UN almost a week to adopt Resolution 665, and in the end the mandate to use force in pursuit of the blockade had to be shrouded in vague terms to induce Kufai sign.

The chief US delegate, Thomas Pickering, claimed that the reserved right of self-defence contained in Resolution 661 had survived the adoption of the new text, although such a reference had been specifically rejected in the negotiations. Only Britain made a similar statement, but hinted at the desirability of further UN authorisation if more forceful measures became necessary.

A number of delegations, from the Finns to the French, felt it necessary to place on record that there was no *carte blanche* for the indiscriminate use of force. However, the most deadly blow for the self-defence argument came unexpectedly when the Kuwaiti representative to the Security Council, Mohammed Abudhan, jubilantly declared that Resolution 665 "will attain the desired results and closes the loopholes"

in UN measures. He committed his country to "the path of peace to attain and secure its rights". A fellow Kuwaiti delegate added that "no party intends to undertake unilateral actions. If the current initiatives under the mandate of Resolution 665 fail, then it would be appropriate and necessary to go back to the Council and seek authorisation for further measures."

In effect, Kuwait itself has acknowledged that the Security Council has taken the "measures necessary" of Article 51 for the maintenance of peace and security. Since it has therefore apparently abandoned self-defence in favour of UN action, no other state can rely on the subsidiary right of collective self-defence on its behalf.

In what may have been an embarrassing oversight, Kuwait's mentors in Washington failed to persuade their client to leave open the possibility of military operations at a later stage — a mistake difficult, if not impossible, to reverse, although the emir's government-in-exile has now started talking about the need for a military offensive.

Of course, the loss of the right to evict Saddam Hussein from Kuwait unilaterally does not mean that the world remains defenceless and at his mercy. Further action by the Security Council is likely if the economic embargo does not defeat him. Kuwaiti freedom-fighters struggling for national liberation may receive outside assistance, but so far Saddam has taken care not to provoke a direct strike by the powers who face him in the Gulf. The Iraqis have actively avoided naval and aerial incidents, and a small skirmish would not in itself prompt massive retaliation.

Saddam has also withdrawn his elite tank and missile forces further behind the Iraqi lines to destroy the legal argument that an "anticipatory act of self-defence" is necessary to forestall an imminent and overwhelming attack. But were Baghdad systematically to threaten the lives of foreigners, their home states' right of self-defence might be activated. It is impossible to say what response such an outrage would trigger.

The author is a researcher in international law at Queens' College, Cambridge.

If it's worth saying once...

As TUC delegates hung on every word of Neil Kinnock's speech on Tuesday, some could have been forgiven for thinking they had heard much of it before. His remarks about Arthur Scargill and the Gulf, which received the most media coverage, were of course new. But much of the rest — a fierce attack on the Tory record — was a last-minute repetition of his last major public speech before the summer holiday, at the miners' annual gala in June.

He told the miners, to a standing ovation: "You'd think they had only just been elected. You'd think they'd hardly had time to unpack their bags. But they have had 11 years. And 11 years is a very long time in economics." The very same words had the same effect on the brothers in Blackpool. He even used the same example: "Eleven years, for instance, is the difference between 1947 when the German economy was still devastated and 1958 when it was surging ahead." Even the commas were in the same place.

Kinnock summed up the last decade to the TUC as "The Thatcher years. The wasted Eighties. That will be their epitaph." A crisp enough summary; but less so when one was hearing it for the second time around.

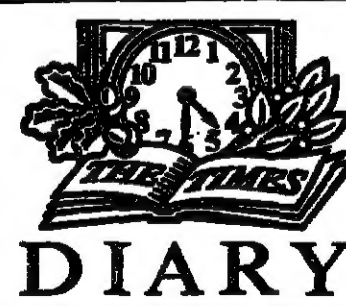
There was more of the same about wasted oil revenues and the biggest tax burden in British history, leading up to this lyrical peroration: "Never has so much been taken from so many by so few with so little show for it." All

lifted from his last public offering. Kinnock's office was unrepentant about the self-plagiarism yesterday, insisting that he would be "repeating the theme of 11 wasted years over and over again until the next election." (And why not as with a slightly different number it was also the theme that won Harold Wilson his first election in 1964?)

But Kinnock did change one thing. In June he told the miners that Britain's inflation rate was 40 per cent above the average of our

EC partners: on Tuesday he quoted a whole paragraph verbatim, except for claiming that the difference had risen to 70 per cent.

To prepare for the Monet exhibition, the Royal Academy had to find a someone to translate into French the taped exhibition narration by the Academy's president, Roger de Grey. A London-based French painter who moonlights as a translator was delighted to oblige. His name? Philippe Monet.



Plunder plea

London museums are appealing to Saddam Hussein to save the unrivalled collection of Islamic art assembled by Kuwait's royal family amid reports of wholesale looting by Iraqi troops. Accumulated at a cost of millions by Sheikh Nasser Al Sabah, the collection contains oriental and Middle Eastern gold and silver work — including important Mughal jewellery from India — carpets, pottery, glass and weaponry.

Venetia Porter of the British Museum's oriental department, who worked on the collection in Kuwait two years ago, says many masterpieces would be instantly recognisable on the black market. But Anthony North, senior research assistant at the V&A's department of metal working, who is co-ordinating the campaign to save the collection, points out that gold and silver can be melted down and that to pile precious glass and ceramics in the back of a van is to invite breakages. "Some items, such as a solid gold 17th-century dagger encrusted with gems, could be broken up — it's very alarming."

The collection was kept in glass

cases on two floors of a custom-built area. Staff would not have had time to rescue the masterpieces in advance of the Iraqi invasion, hence the growing fears that rampaging soldiers might already have smashed the cases and stolen the most tempting objects.

North has contacted a friend in the potential war zone seeking up-to-date information and is discussing a co-ordinated approach to Saddam with the British Museum. "Our message for Saddam is that he honour the Islamic tradition and preserve these magnificent examples of his own culture."

First Impressionists

As Christie's revel in the commission to handle the sale of the huge Philippine national art collection put together by Imelda Marcos, rivals at Sotheby's are wondering why they lost the deal. The answer may lie in Sotheby's choice of artistic ambassador to Manila. While Christie's sent Lord Carrington, consummate diplomat and archetypal English gentleman, to charm President Cory Aquino, Sotheby's sent their American chairman, Alfred Taubman, a shopping-mall developer who once said that selling art was "like selling root beer". Taubman's streetwise style went down like a lead balloon, and Carrington's old-world charm won the day.

With hindsight, do Sotheby's feel that their London chairman, Lord Gownie, might have been a better envoy? "Alfred Taubman is a highly successful and respected businessman and philanthropist," insists Sotheby's. "He is very good at negotiating and making present-

tations." He happened to be visiting the Far East, and so was a natural choice for the job.

Sotheby's hope that all is not lost. "Negotiations are still going on with the Philippines about the rest of the paintings. There are some more impressionists to be sold." And will Gownie be put on the case? "No comment."

Heavy metal

Karlheinz Stockhausen's 12-hour rehearsals at the Royal Festival Hall for his concert tomorrow night have been accompanied by some drama. First the German avant-garde composer was distressed when a bag containing his passport was stolen. Then Stockhausen, who is a believer in the occult, was disturbed as large chunks of metal and other debris started raining down on the platform. "I thought a building like this would be guarded by better spirits," he told the staff. The truth was far more mundane. A gaggle of youngsters had sneaked into the upper gallery and pelted the platform with bits of junk. Hooligans or defenders of musical traditionalism?

In these days of animal lib, the will of Lord Pagar, until his elevation MP for Northampton, for nearly 30 years, strikes an unfashionable note. It requests that "a memorial service or meeting be held at the village where the Fenie Hounds meet on the next convenient day... that his friends come in hunting clothes... that no hunting be stopped... and his trustees provide a good glass of port to everyone attending." The wish of a true hunting-pluk Tory? Pagar, in fact, was a stalwart socialist, and surely the last of his breed.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

UNITING THE NATION

Emergency sessions of parliament are, and should be, rare. Today's debate should have two functions. The first is to rally Britain's elected representatives in the face of a grave threat and to provide President Saddam Hussein with unequivocal evidence of the country's determination to do whatever is necessary to force Iraq to surrender its human and territorial prey. The second is to ensure that the government's responses and aims are thoroughly cross-examined and understood.

These purposes, as some parliamentary debates during the phoney war phase of the Falklands conflict demonstrated, are not always easily reconciled. The likelihood that British forces will eventually be engaged in war in the Gulf means that this debate cannot be confined to the government's actions so far. The military as well as diplomatic implications of those actions are under scrutiny. The question is how far a responsible government should be forced to spell out the means as well as the ends of policy, and how far a responsible Opposition should press it.

Ends first. British forces have been dispatched for two declared purposes. They are there under article 51 of the UN charter, at the request of Saudi Arabia, to deter Iraq from carrying its war beyond Kuwait's frontiers. They are there, initially at the request of Kuwait under article 51, to enforce UN sanctions against Iraq, through naval enforcement subsequently authorised (after some delay) by the UN Security Council.

Deterrence is working. Sanctions are functioning efficiently, but until Iraq withdraws unconditionally from Kuwait they cannot be said to have "worked". Nor is it altogether clear whether the purpose of the sanctions is to ensure that no invasion recurs, by permanently weakening Iraq. Are British forces in the Gulf to recapture Kuwait by force or even to overthrow Saddam? Were Iraq to withdraw, its military and chemical weapons arsenal intact, would the government consider that Iraq's threat to peace had been removed?

These questions cannot be considered purely hypothetical, as Mrs. Thatcher has already acknowledged by referring to the need, once Kuwait has been freed, to examine regional security arrangements. They raise, however, the possibility of an open-ended commitment on which the Opposition will properly seek clarification. No government could expect a blank cheque, and the debate should seek to establish broad agreement on objectives.

The Opposition should, in turn, relinquish the temptation to tie the government's hand on the means to employ. The spirit of adven-

turism reigns on neither side of the house and Mrs. Thatcher has been insisting that sanctions must be given every chance, refusing to set any kind of deadline. That does not mean that a deadline will not impose itself, if Iraq continues to refuse to withdraw, if only because the multinational forces assembling in the Gulf cannot sit there indefinitely.

The main point of contention is the government's liberty to act without the express authorisation of the security council. Mrs. Thatcher contends that the collective self-defence clause of the UN charter, article 51, provides all the legal authorisation necessary for military action. The Opposition concedes that in certain circumstances — if Iraq attacked another country, or the fleet enforcing the embargo, for example — a quick military response would be justified, without first obtaining a security council resolution. But would bipartisanship break down if Iraq sits tight, if the government judges that the security council would not agree to military action under article 42, and commits forces to a counter-thrust under article 51?

There is nothing ignoble in emphasising the desirability of collective action under UN auspices. The activism of the security council has been historically remarkable, a gain not to be lightly undermined. But the UN's history has been less than glorious, action under article 42 would be unprecedented, and UN diplomacy is not yet mature enough to be counted on. London and Washington must therefore keep their options open.

Kuwait has acknowledged, as argued by Marc Weller opposite, that the security council has taken the action needed to enforce the naval blockade, and should be consulted if further tightening of sanctions is needed. But should Kuwait request it, that does not rule out military action under article 51 in pursuit of resolution 660, demanding Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait.

Neil Kinnock's test for action under article 51 appears to be not legality in the narrow sense, but the prospect of global, and Arab, support. That is an advance on the position of Gerald Kaufman, who on the ground that "the authority of the United Nations... must be supreme" has come close to saying that, should the UN lose its collective nerve, Labour would oppose "action by one or two countries". Mr. Kinnock should use this debate to affirm his party's absolute commitment to seeing that aggression does not pay. The less daylight is glimpsed between the two main political parties today, the better the prospects for success in the dangerous weeks ahead.

SPORTING LINKS

The English cricket authorities should prepare for an official tour of South Africa. The international conference against apartheid in sport has just completed what may be its last plenary meeting in Stockholm. Even such inveterate supporters of the sports boycott as Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the anti-apartheid South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (Sanroc), declared that the resumption of sporting relations was no longer a matter of whether but of when.

The answer is now. Of all forms of the international isolation of South Africa, the sports boycott has been widely regarded as the most effective in undermining white complacency. The essence of sporting contest, on pitch or track or against the clock, is that all men and women are equal. The exclusion from international sport of the sports-loving people of South Africa has symbolised the world's revulsion at the denial of sportsmanship that apartheid demanded.

Cricket was one of the first games to find that apartheid and sport were incompatible, when the South Africans tried to interfere in the racial composition of an England side in 1968. While cricket has not led the way in sports integration, its recent attempts to meet the terms set for ending the boycott have been valiant. In athletics and soccer integration has reached the stage where a national team of the best sportsmen could be assembled without race affecting selection, except insofar as economic deprivation has a race bias. Black sportsmen have brought their performance to a level where a South African national team in athletics or football would be mainly black.

The exclusion of a South African soccer team from all-African or even world competition is now wholly unreasonable. Opinion among the anti-apartheid lobbyists at Stockholm was divided on whether the lifting of the

boycott should in the first instance be partial or total, and if total whether it should have to wait until all forms of sport are as fully integrated as the best. This presupposes that the discipline across world sport which has kept South Africa out — apart from maverick unofficial ventures disowned by sport authorities — can be maintained.

Lifting the boycott for one sport would almost certainly breach the dam for the rest, particularly as the boycott has been observed with a minimum of good grace in such sports as rugby. National political pressure has had to be continuous, for instance, to police the Commonwealth Games agreement. Discrimination between sports would undermine the moral force of such compacts. Why should a more or less white game like cricket still be under ban, for instance, simply because it did not appeal to the sporting tastes of black South Africans as much as football?

The re-establishment of sporting links with South Africa sooner rather than later would not just reward sportsmen in that country for their good behaviour. The justification for imposing the boycott in the first place was its impact, through sport, on white politics. South Africa's whites have started on a path that must lead to power-sharing with blacks. The biggest obstacle in the way of this path is the danger of a white backlash, even of a far-right coup. The restoration of sporting links would give the Nationalist government an invaluable tool to wave in the face of the right: reform does bring some advantages — and here, in the form of an England cricket team, is an international quid pro quo.

The Test and County Cricket Board has waved the stick, now it should offer the carrot. It should state as early as possible that the first post-apartheid cricket tour of South Africa is being scheduled for the winter of 1991.

OF BIRDS AND MEN

Britain's estuaries, mudflats and tidal reaches provide sustenance for some of the finest wildlife in Europe but as natural habitats they are at risk. A survey by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) of 123 estuaries, about 80 per cent of the total, has shown 80 to be under threat, a number from more than one source.

Around 30 are in "immediate danger of permanent damage", 49 are threatened by leisure developments, 33 by marinas, 29 by pollution and 29 by land reclamation. Projected barrages will impinge on 22 of them, industry is affecting 17 while 14 are involved in port expansion plans. The Humber, the Blackwater, the Medway and the Thames, the Severn, the Mersey, the Ribble, the Welsh Dee and the Wash are among those on the RSPB's danger list.

The effects are already apparent. The number of dunlin, the most common British wading bird — one third of the European total winter in this country — has been halved in the last 20 years. Between 1975 and 1987 the population of redshank fell by a quarter. Many other waterfowl and waders will die out if forced from their habitats and feeding grounds.

Britain has an international responsibility. In addition to those birds which regularly winter here, millions more stop briefly beside our estuaries while migrating south. The EC's 1979 directive on setting up special protection areas for birds and the 1971 Ramsar inter-

national convention which dealt with the preservation of wetlands placed obligations on the government which it has been less than energetic in fulfilling.

All human activities cannot be halted in the interests of preserving bird life. Britain is not a gigantic bird sanctuary. But yesterday's RSPB report underlines the need for a coastal conservation strategy which would determine and sort out national priorities. One already exists in California. Bird watchers would not be alone in benefiting from it. The piecemeal development of Britain's coastline has for too long been a national disgrace.

The government has acknowledged the environmental importance of Britain's estuaries. But the RSPB claims with justice that protective measures so far have been inadequate. A basic flaw is the lack of a Whitehall sub-department which might assume overall responsibility for the coastline. Its fate is at present determined by as many as 33 different departments.

This confusion is compounded at local government level. The variety of competing local interests is illustrated by the example of the Wash which is bordered by three county council areas. Only when the government takes control and lays down clear guidelines for all users will the weekend sailors, cockle diggers, water skiers, fish farmers, coastal industries and the birds come to terms with one another.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Agony and anger of UK hostages

From Ms Kirsty Norman

Sir, I have just had the immense good fortune to be one of the first hostages to be released from Iraq. Having been in Kuwait City for the first 2½ weeks of the invasion, I made an escape attempt across the desert with a small group of friends. However, we were arrested and that night found ourselves in the first wave of Westerners to be interned at strategic installations in Kuwait.

I would like to register a widely-felt protest at the lack of help and/or useful advice given by the British Embassy in Kuwait and at the inefficiency both of the embassy and the Foreign Office in collecting vital information.

During the first few days of the invasion it would have been possible to drive openly on the main route into Saudi Arabia: this I learned later from a Swiss national, who, while we British hid in our homes like frightened rabbits at the strong recommendation of our embassy, had been driving unimpeded from end to end of the country, not to escape, but to collect information.

By the time I found out that it had been possible to leave and that British consular officials had been sent to the Saudi-Kuwait border to receive fleeing Britons those legal crossing points were closed to Westerners. Yet I had been registered with the British Embassy in order to be given information by area wardens.

After I had discovered that a group of which the embassy was aware were coordinating escape routes, the Iraqi net had tightened and we encountered road blocks and were arrested. The co-ordinators themselves were doing a brave and splendid job.

We were taken under armed escort to the Regency Palace hotel, where Westerners were being assembled for indefinite internment. I rang my area warden, who showed no interest in taking the names of our group. I have since found that even my name never reached the British Embassy. The Regency Palace, of

course, had the names and nationalities of all its "guests".

My husband here in England found out only on August 28, via an Austrian released when President Waldheim visited Baghdad, that I had been interned on the 18th. Today he received a copy of a letter from the Foreign Secretary to the Labour Foreign Affairs spokesman dealing with my case, which states:

Kirsty Norman is safe and well... She is at present staying with friends... we now know that foreign nationals in Kuwait, including 135 Britons, have been taken away to strategic locations...

This letter, dated August 28, fails to state that on the 18th nearly 100 more people had been taken to be interned, I among them. Are we as named individuals so unimportant?

On Sunday 199 of us arrived in England, carrying between us a wealth of detailed information about Kuwait, Iraq and our people there. On our arrival there was no suggestion of debriefing.

I feel a terrible despair for those left behind. Their situation is bad enough without being compounded by what my husband and I regard as British official complacency.

Yours faithfully,
KIRSTY NORMAN,
20 Fielding Street, SE17,
September 4.

From Mr Ralph O. Herbert

Sir, The United Nations Security Council has imposed restrictions and sanctions against Iraq. May I suggest that negotiations and actions with regard to hostages should be left to that Council.

I can see no reason why the UN could not hire planes, coaches or indeed ships from any nation. Action by individuals or governments can only end with more division and increase the chances of conflict.

Yours sincerely,
RALPH O. HERBERT,
3 Fountain Court,
Buckingham Palace Road, SW1,
September 3.

Cambodian economy

From Professor Meghnad Desai

Sir, James Fringle (report, September 3) may well be correct in his political assessment of the Cambodian situation, but he is hasty in his judgment on the economy when he says, apropos of economic liberalization, that "in communist Asia, it is as if changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have been happening on another planet".

Having come back from a two-week visit to Cambodia at the end of July I can definitely say that for Cambodia economic liberalization started in January, 1989. This is as visible in the retail markets of Phnom Penh and Kompong Som (Siem Reap) as in the countryside which I was able to visit.

The agricultural sector is now overwhelmingly private and food procurement for domestic and export use is done by private traders as well as state agencies, the latter finding themselves at a considerable disadvantage. There is an almost uncontrolled growth of imports from hard-currency areas and extremely low rates of customs duties on most categories of imports.

For a country with 80 per cent of its labour force in agriculture the recovery of the rice output back to 1970 levels has helped stabilise the real economy. If there is a problem it is one of finding appropriate instruments of macro-economic control in an economy which has made a quick transition from a command to a mixed economy.

There is no income tax and the turnover tax, their main fiscal source, is so low that the state collects only about 2 per cent of its GNP in taxes. It spends about 5 per cent of its GDP so some fiscal

and/or monetary tightening will be needed if inflation is not to accelerate beyond the ten per cent monthly rate it has reached.

Far from being backward in perestroika, Cambodia is an indication of the problems that a country may face from rapid economic liberalization. If and when the political situation is settled there will no doubt be much more interest in learning how Cambodia tackles its economic question.

Yours etc.,
MEGHNAD DESAI,
The London School of Economics
and Political Science,
Department of Economics,
Houghton Street, WC2,
September 4.

Disunited kingdom?

From Mrs Diane Morgan

Sir, Whenever it is suggested that Scotland has greater authority to run her own affairs there follows a response from unionists that this would lead to a "break-up of the United Kingdom". But what United Kingdom?

During the past month I have heard and read in purportedly "national" media of "the start of the school holidays", "the A-level results" and "the August Bank holiday", as if these events, relevant only in England and Wales, had a national status.

The concept of a United Kingdom vanished long ago, if it ever existed. Compilers of dictionaries of synonyms should note that "England" and "Britain" have an identical meaning.

Yours truly,
DIANE MORGAN
Rose House,
27 Rose Street, Aberdeen 1.

Youths in custody

From the Chief Executive of the National Children's Home

Sir, You report (August 27) on proposals for local remand units for young offenders. One area of great concern must be the plight of 14-year-olds.

We must not forget that such children can still be sentenced to prison department custody. The numbers may be small (just 21 were held on June 30, 1988). But concern for 15 and 16-year-olds highlighted by your article must not allow anachronistic treatment of 14-year-olds to slip through unchallenged by reform.

The National Children's Home, as well as running exemplary alternative to custody projects around the country, will continue to remind ministers of the need to abolish prison custody for 14-year-olds in the forthcoming legislation arising from the White Paper, *Crime, Justice and Protecting the Public*.

Yours faithfully,
TOM WHITE, Chief Executive,
National Children's Home,
85 Highbury Park, N5,
September 1.

Access to rivers

From Dr G. H. Smith

Sir, It is now clear that confusion has been caused by your report (August 1) of the recent ruling by the Court of Appeal that the 1932 Rights of Way Act applies to rivers as well as footpaths. It has proved possible to read this report as saying that any previously undisturbed river might now be invaded by craft of all kinds.

All the ruling means, in fact, is that the same standard of proof applies to highways on water as to footpaths and bridleways on land. Twenty years' use by the public

A taste of honey

From Mr R. A. Steele

Sir, Your report (August 24) about honey provides another glaring example of how the common agricultural policy of the EC pushes up the price of everyday commodities.

No mention is made of the fact that bee farmers are already protected by a massive 27 per cent tariff added to honey imported from outside the EC; this just goes to show the pittance that must be paid to bee farmers for their produce in these Third World economies when, after paying this tariff, the price to the consumer is under what EC honey retails for.

Nature dictates that bees will only survive where they collect enough honey to supply the hives for 12 months. That being so, to spend £560 a tonne to feed them inferior sugar suggests that the production of honey should be left to efficient producers who can extract excess honey and leave enough for the bees to winter over.

I remain, yours sincerely,
R. A. STEELE,
9 Holt Close,
Highgate Wood, N10.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

More flexibility in pay bargaining

From the Director-General of the CBI

Sir, Unfortunately John Edmonds' article, "Putting pay in perspective" (August 29), fails to put pay in perspective. In particular readers can be forgiven for not realising some fundamental facts about pay and performance in the UK because they were not included:

During the eighties average earnings in the UK rose by 132 per cent (and house prices by 175 per cent incidentally) while the RPI rose by 77 per cent.

Skills differentials are very much lower in the UK than in West Germany and wages for unskilled young people are much closer to those for adults. Annual investment in skills training by the private sector is running at record levels of well over £12 billion — a marked contrast with the days of training levies and compulsion for which John Edmonds evidently yearns. CBI surveys suggest that far from being cut back this figure is set to increase in real terms.

Moreover, notwithstanding the current pause in growth, 1990 will see UK manufacturing output at an all-time high, along with record levels of exports and productivity. And investment is focusing on quality not price: the last CBI Innovation Trends survey showed the need to enhance quality is more than twice as important an

influence on investment intentions as the need to reduce costs.

However, this is no time to be complacent about the way pay is negotiated. The cost of reducing inflation in terms of unemployment appears to be much greater in the UK than in West Germany or the United States, never mind Japan. At present we could be in some danger of achieving the worst of both worlds: neither the local flexibility that should go with decentralised pay arrangements nor the overall control of wage increases claimed by the supporters of a national approach to pay determination.

Flexibility is the key, as John Edmonds recognises, and national wage bargains simply cannot reflect the local needs and opportunities for employers and employees alike. The trend to decentralisation of pay determination is accelerating in the private sector — this year saw the abandonment of national wage bargaining in the engineering industry for instance. It is time the public-service sector caught up rather than remaining stuck in the corporatist mud of the past.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BANHAM,
Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1,
September 3.

Housing policies

From Mr Nevill H. Lee

Sir, The housing policies of the Labour Party are even more confused than Mr Klappholz suggests (August 28). The shadow housing minister, Mr Clive Soley, recently said that tax benefits to owner-occupiers must continue, since to end them would amount to political suicide.

The immobility of labour and over-investment by owner-occupiers to the detriment of industry are only the most obvious symptoms of the damage to the UK economy caused by these tax subsidies. Untaxed capital gains following the sale of private houses, and funds released by re-mortgaging properties that have rapidly increased in value have certainly added substantially to personal expenditure and inflation.

However, the private rented sector has expanded significantly following the Housing Act 1988 and the adherence of the Labour Party to a policy of rent control that is a proven failure prevents and will continue to prevent major long-term investment by individuals and institutions in residential property to let.

I hope that Mr Klappholz and his fellow economists can persuade Mr Soley and his colleagues that a free market in rented housing leads to personal freedom and that a genuine option to rent or purchase should be open to all.

Yours faithfully,
N. H. LEE (Council member),
Association of Residential
Letting Agents,
18-21 Jermyn Street, SW1.

Poland's future

From Mr Roger Fox

Sir, Professor Alan Walters (article, August 29) draws depressing conclusions about both the political and economic future of Poland. Everyone, including the Poles themselves, agrees that the position of the nomenclatura remains as strong as ever. Indeed, Professor Walters understates its influence because it remains in place in the civil service, the media, academic institutions, etc. as well as in industrial management. Or, to put it another way, the structure of democratic centralism remains in place, even though the communist government was overthrown.

But should we not congratulate the Poles for the courageous and decisive steps they have taken to bring inflation down and make their currency convertible? There has been a 31 per cent fall in real incomes this year, but the economy now has real prices which can be the basis for realistic economic decisions. Overcoming 40 years of socialism was never going to be easy and we cannot expect a full-blown market economy in a mere 12 months.

So perhaps we should be more patient. We should seek to help the younger Polish managers precisely because the nomenclatura is still in place and because, in my experience, among the younger managers there are those who know what needs to be done to re-establish a free market pluralistic economy.

I fear that inadvertently the British Know-How Fund is actually helping the nomenclatura to maintain their positions of influence because we have not understood this central point.

Yours sincerely,
ROGER FOX,
Thames Polytechnic,
School of Social Sciences,
Wellington Street, Woolwich, SE17,
August 31.

of the Act was succeeded by the throwing open of large estates to the public.

What it does do is protect the continued public enjoyment of waterways where the right of passage has no other clear statutory origin and where evidence of use from time immemorial is not available.

Yours faithfully,
G. H. SMITH (Chairman,
Yorkshire Derwent Trust),
Park Gate House,
69A Park Road,
Guisley, Leeds, West Yorkshire,
August 28.

From Lord Hamilton of Dalzell

Sir, May I comment on your report (August 22) on proposed cuts in the use of hotels for the homeless and the letter from Councillor Challis (August 28).

I was one of the last directors of Rowton Hotels, a public company which managed the Rowton houses founded by Montague Currie, later Lord Rowton, Disraeli's private secretary. At the turn of the century he raised the money to build large buildings to house single men in urgent need of accommodation in London.

In the early 1980s three of these buildings were housing together about 2,000 single men in Camden, Lambeth and Tower Hamlets. Each innmate was given his own room and the price could be met from within the social security benefit. The company made a small profit.

The houses side of the company was later sold to the local authorities, with the Government providing the money to prevent closure. I believe that these hostels now provide a higher standard of accommodation for half the number of people, albeit at considerable cost to the taxpayer.

It is not a pity that Lord Rowton's vision of large-scale basic accommodation with dignity for the unhoused was abandoned, and is it surprising that the number of those sleeping in the streets has increased?

Yours faithfully,
HAMILTON OF DALZELL,
Betchworth House,
Betchworth, Surrey,
August 28.

Church repairs

From the Secretary of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust

Sir, I never cease to be amazed at the astonishing sums congregations raise for the repair of their churches and chapels. English Heritage contribute several million pounds a year, the Historic Churches Preservation Trust and the Incorporated Church Building Society another £1 million in grants and interest-free loans and the 25 county historic churches trusts about another £1 million, but all together this amounts to only a fraction of the £50 or £60 million which it costs to keep our heritage of churches and chapels standing.

Next Saturday, however, everybody has the opportunity to help when 25,000 cyclists will be taking part, all over the country, in the county historic churches sponsored cycle ride, which has already raised £3 million and should certainly raise another £750,000 this year.

Yours sincerely,
IAIN RADFORD, Secretary,
Historic Churches Preservation Trust,
Fulham Palace, SW6,
September 4.

Gnawed nothing

From Mr Timothy Michael James

Sir, I have a simple remedy for Mr Nicholas Baker, MP's gnawed cricket net (September 3) as I had a similar problem, not with rabbits but with hedgehogs. It is to surround the lower part of the netting with chicken wire. I have since enjoyed a whole season's use without interference from any of these delightful creatures.

Yours sincerely,
T. JAMES,
Westfield House, Marden, Kent,
September 4.

From Mr Jonathan Rule

Sir, The plight of Mr Baker's rabbit has a lesson for us all. In a free market, with perfect competition, the Government still has a duty to protect the irrational consumer.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN RULE,
Stowe Hill, Auchinleck Drive,
Lichfield, Staffordshire.
From Dr J. S. Madden
Sir, It was a hedgehog which cut the hole that emmeshed the larger rabbit.
Yours faithfully,
SPENCER MADDEN,
Glendale, 87 Mill Lane,
Upton-by-Chester, Chester,
September 3.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Sophisticated electronic gadgetry, capable of working faultlessly round the clock, may become the farm hands of the future, Nick Nuttall reports

Robot milkmaids with green fingers

A herd of dairy cows in Britain is being groomed for an experiment which may take research in farming robotics a crucial step forward. Plans are afoot to create a robot milkmaid designed by researchers at the Agricultural and Food Research Council's (AFRC) Institute of Agricultural Engineering Research at West Park, Silsoe, Bedfordshire. The robot would be able to place two, possibly four, milking cups on cows' teats without the need for human hands.

Preliminary studies have shown that a robot milkmaid can, by being available round the clock, boost dairy yields by as much as 15 per cent. Cows suckle their young several times a day, so they prefer frequent, small, milkings rather than a single morning session, studies have found.

The herds soon fall into a routine of strolling into the milking parlour as the mood takes them, says Michael Moncaster, head of the institute's information engineering division.

Here they are milked by the robot and automatically checked for signs of mastitis and hormone fluctuations which may indicate the animal is on heat. At the heart of the system are sensors which can relay to the robot the exact position of the cow in a stall. A

sensor first reads an electronic tag on the cow's neckband, which is checked by a computer system that carries information on each cow, including when it was last milked. As the cups are moved towards the udders, sensors in each cup allow the robot arm to fine-tune the fitting.

The benefits to the farmer are obvious. More time can be spent caring for the cows and doing other tasks around the farm. Vast milking parlours, which can accommodate a whole herd, become unnecessary, as just a few robots can replace the numerous man-controlled machines.

The robot milkmaid has already mastered placing one cup at a time on a cow, but if the more complicated task of placing multiple cups on teats, planned for the end of the year, can be achieved, it will be a breakthrough.

Mr Moncaster says preliminary trials indicate that the robot milkmaid is a bit with the herd because it is more sensitive than a human hand.

Meanwhile, researchers in Australia promise the introduction of a robot sheep shearer this year. They hope this can meet the growing shortfall of skilled men willing to do the back-breaking work.

In Britain, the push to develop

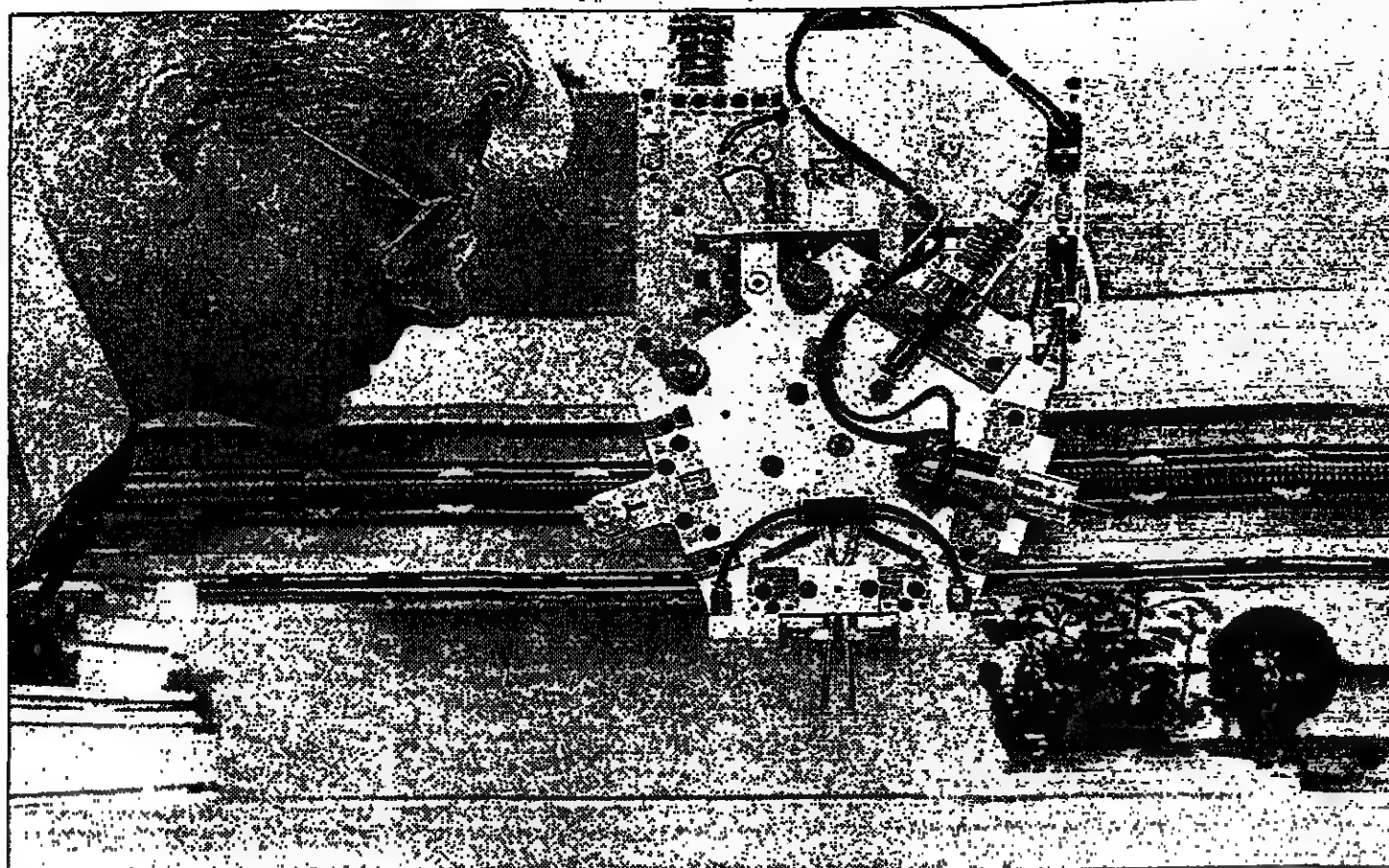
robots for farming, horticulture and food applications is centred on a committee of academic researchers and companies formed in the wake of the government's Advanced Robotics initiative, launched two years ago.

The committee, set up after a recent seminar held at AFRC Silsoe, intends to meet before the end of the year to draw up a short list of the most useful fields in which robots might be applied.

Mr Moncaster believes that the list will be headed by robotic micropropagation. The technique relies on cutting plants, such as chrysanthemums, into small pieces at the nodes which lie between the stem and the leaves, and transplanting these cuttings into a growing medium. From a small stock, a flower farmer can rapidly build up a vast number of plants for sale in a series of three week cycles.

However, the work is labour intensive, requires hygienic conditions to ensure the plants are healthy and, ideally, needs uniform cutting and planting to maximise cost effectiveness.

"The work is currently done by people who are efficient, but they can get tired and lose concentration after about two hours, whereas a robot can run 24 hours, producing exact results under clean



Advanced robotics: Michael Moncaster with a robotic micro-propagator which will cut and plant cuttings for flower farmers

conditions," Mr Moncaster says. The institute has been developing a system for cutting plant pieces which uses imaging analysis technology, pioneered by the team for screening vegetables, to try to guide the robot to the stem node.

The team is experimenting with

neural networks, computer systems that are wired to mimic the functions of the human brain, which are connected to a robot's television camera.

A similar system may be also adapted for the more delicate and challenging job of picking mushrooms. "Mushrooms are particu-

larly interesting. They are a delicate, high value crop, grown indoors in confined conditions," Mr Moncaster says.

In the past few years, the Silsoe team has been developing a system which can identify individual mushrooms and recognise those mature enough to be picked.

Mr Moncaster says that if a robot can harvest mushrooms, it is possible that many other crops could be harvested by intelligent machines. These may now be operated by a farmer in the field but, one day, they may act autonomously or be controlled remotely from a computer.



A scientist measuring solar radiation at the North Pole

High altitude aircraft measurements have strengthened the suspicion that serious ozone depletion is occurring over the North Pole as well as the South Pole. Although an ozone hole comparable to the one detected at the South Pole has not been found, the measurements show that up to 35 per cent of ozone in air at the North Pole is lost during the Arctic winter. Previous studies indicated seasonal losses of about 12 per cent.

The measurements were made by Dr Michael Proffitt, of Colorado University, and his colleagues last winter and are reported in this week's *Nature* magazine. "If this is true, then ozone losses in the Arctic in winter are not much less than in the Antarctic spring," says Dr Alan Plumb, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He adds, however, that the effects of the depletion are less

dramatic because Arctic ozone, unlike Antarctic ozone, is being resupplied through atmospheric circulation at about the rate at which it is being destroyed. The northern hemisphere's air movements produce a constant flux of fresh, ozone-rich air into the atmosphere of the polar vortex, the region where ozone losses are most severe. Nevertheless, the new study is likely to increase fears about the safety of atmospheric ozone in the whole northern hemisphere.

Research published earlier this year suggests that in the past 20 years Europe's ozone layer has thinned by about 3 per cent. The study may also spur efforts to develop strategies for repairing the ozone layer.

Heading for another pole with a hole?

Airborne American scientists have found thinning in the ozone layer over the Antarctic

In recent years the ozone problem has stretched scientific ingenuity and the result is a plethora of imaginative "solutions" that veer close to science fiction. This trend continues in California, where researchers, led by Alfred Wong, of the University of California at Stanford, are to investigate whether high-powered radio waves could, in principle, be used to conserve ozone in the stratosphere.

Their experiments will be carried out in Alaska using a high-powered transmitter to send radio waves into the upper atmosphere

and a ground-based laser system to monitor their effects on ozone concentration.

Elsewhere in the United States, research into high-powered radio waves has led to a surprising discovery about the atmospheric effects of lightning. Although it has long been known that lightning bolts generate ozone in the lower atmosphere, where it serves no purpose, their effects on the upper atmosphere have been harder to discover.

Earlier this year, however, Dr Umran Inan, at Stanford, succeeded in simulating these effects

using a radio-wave transmitter. His results show that continuous transmission of very low frequency radio waves, of the kind produced momentarily by lightning, causes electron heating in the upper atmosphere by converting ozone-eating chlorine into a more benign form.

Previously, researchers had bothered to look only for signs of atmospheric heating from high-frequency radio waves.

Atmospheric ozone is depleted by chlorine atoms that are released from chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) gases by the action of ultra-violet sunlight.

A powerful radio wave passing through the upper atmosphere heats it up and generates free, fast-moving electrons. In theory, these

electrons could help to protect ozone by combining with chlorine atoms to make them unreactive. However, even if this basic theory is found to be correct, the practical problems of using radio waves, or for that matter any other kind of electromagnetic radiation, to conserve ozone are likely to be immense.

"There is some good chemistry and physics in these experiments, but the amount of energy you would need to pump into the atmosphere to have any real effect is huge," says Dr Joe Farman, a member of the British Antarctic Survey Group, which discovered the ozone hole.

However, the ozone could prove to be worse than the disease, because the amount of fossil fuel that would have to be burnt to generate that energy could increase global warming.

DAVID CONCAR

© Nature Times Science Service 1990

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

HEAD OF NATIONAL SURFACE ENGINEERING CENTRE

RISLEY · CHESHIRE
c£40k negotiable + car + benefits

AEA Technology is establishing a National Centre for Technology Transfer in Surface Engineering. This Centre will be run as a self-contained unit within AEA Technology and it will be located in Cheshire, adjacent to the National Centre of Technology at Risley.

The prime objective of the Centre will be to catalyse the transfer of technology to UK industry encompassing materials selection, surface treatment and coating processes together with evaluation and assessment of components in realistic environments. The Centre will act as the focal point for the dissemination of information to industry and one of its main thrusts will involve industrial teaching courses and seminars.

This initiative is being taken in collaboration with the Centre for exploitation of Science and Technology. Applications are invited for the post of Head of the Centre. The successful candidate will face the challenge of building up a team of people to meet the requirements of the Centre. He/she will build up a wide commercial customer

base and become the focus for a range of surface engineering activities throughout the UK and Europe. He/she will keep abreast of international trends and developments in the technology and ensure that the best and most up to date processes, techniques and equipment are available to UK industry.

The candidate for this post will be well qualified in engineering or materials science. He/she will have a proven record of successful R & D project management and business development in industry and will have an established reputation in surface engineering. For this high profile role the candidate must have excellent interpersonal and communications skills.

The appointment in the first instance will be for 3 years. For an informal discussion about this vacancy, please telephone Dr Alan Penn on Abingdon (0235) 344291.

To apply, please write with full career and salary details by 28 Sept 1990, to Mrs Kate Bowen, AEA Technology, Harwell Laboratory, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0RA. Please quote reference number T 1967

We are an equal opportunities employer.

AEA TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER ENGINEERING START-UP OPPORTUNITIES

An exciting opportunity to build a new Customer Services division! Our client is a leading organisation in the microcomputer industry, an established dealer in PC systems and networking products, on target in 1990 to achieve sales of £20 million. Ambitious expansion plans for the near and long term by the director to build a professional regional Customer Services division.

A number of new positions at all levels have been defined each having a significant role in the success of the division.

Experience in the computer maintenance industry is essential, and a sound knowledge of the IBM Compatibles, Technics and Novell product ranges preferred. Contribution to customer care, a knowledge of OS 2/386 is an advantage. Based in South West London, they seek:

TECHNICAL SUPPORT MANAGER c.£27,000 + Car etc SW London
To oversee the national technical support team with responsibility for the hardware and software repairs, as well as technical training and liaison with OEM's.
REGIONAL FIELD OPERATIONS MANAGER c.£27,000 + Car etc SW London
To set up and manage the field engineering effort for the South of England ensuring your team provides facilities and customer service, and maintains productivity & quality targets.
TECHNICAL SYSTEMS MANAGER c.£27,000 + Car etc SW London
To oversee the installation and managing of networks, printers and resources to handle all receipt & disposal, and maintaining a 24 hours 15 day support of essential facilities.
TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS c.£22,000 + Car etc
To provide the technical support to the national technical support team. Extensive experience in LANs and applications support a distinct advantage.
CUSTOMER ENGINEERS c.£12-18,000 + Car
Professional PC Engineers at all levels required, with knowledge of IBM Compatibles systems, good interpersonal skills and presentation. Opportunity to set up your own service.

Please write with full CV indicating career ambitions to: Mr James Corbett c/o J & M Associates, 2 Percy Street, London W1P 9FA

RAM MOBILE DATA LIMITED NETWORK IMPLEMENTATION MANAGER

Due to expansion in the role of our Company, we are seeking a Network Implementation Manager to prepare, maintain and monitor implementation plans for complex mobile communication systems. In this position, the successful candidate will work closely with client management, radio engineers, network engineers, financial staff and marketing personnel to develop implementation plans which meet technical and marketing goals established by the client. He/she will ensure the compliance, by all responsible parties, with the implementation plan. It will also be the responsibility of the Network Implementation Manager to draw up schedules of sub-contractor work and ensure compliance with time schedules and to prepare and make periodic reports to the client.

The successful applicant will have a minimum of four years experience managing a project of similar complexity. Experience is required in using a computerised project management system, analysing dependencies between project components, allocating resources and monitoring expenses. The individual shall be experienced in maintaining an inventory of fixed assets and equipment, and in liaising with field personnel. Good written and oral presentation skills are required. The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate these skills with examples of previous work. Experience in dealing with Governmental projects is further required.

The negotiable salary will be very competitive depending upon the successful applicant's experience. Please apply to: John Alderton, Vice President - Finance RAM Mobile Data Limited, London House, 271-273 King Street, Hammersmith, London W6 9LZ.

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS SCHOOL OF COMPUTER STUDIES & COMPUTER BASED LEARNING UNIT

The School of Computer Studies & Computer Based Learning Unit have two SERC CASE STUDENTSHIPS available for suitably qualified applicants in the following research topics:

— integration of Help in Application Development;
— a generic approach to Configuration Tasks.

The Studentships are offered in association with ICL Strategic Systems Services and, in both cases, the student will have the opportunity to collaborate with the Design Team.

For further details contact: Andrew J Cole, Computer Based Learning Unit, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, telephone: 0532 334826.

Electrical Engineering Manager

Professional qualifications and experience in Process Industries necessary. Contact Mrs J. Langley Tel. 081-995 0555

KAJIMA CORPORATION,

an international Japanese Architect/Engineer/ Contractor/Developer firm has vacancy for the position of

SCHEDULE CONTROLLER

for a 4-year multi-million international resort project in Malaysia.

Requirements

- * Degree in Civil/Building Engineering
- * Knowledge of Horrett Computer System
- * Some experience in the construction field

Interested applicants: Please write in with detailed resume to reach us before 15 September 1990 to:

The Project Director of Desaru Project
KAJIMA CORPORATION
80 Marine Parade Road
14-01/03 Parkway Parade
Singapore 1544
Telephone : 65-344-0066
Facsimile : 65-348-2435

CONSULTANT

EXPLOITATION OF IT RESEARCH

The Teaching Company Directorate seeks a consultant to set up partnerships between academic institutions and firms aimed at applying the results of IT research in industry. We are looking for someone who has:

- a good knowledge of academic IT research
- the ability to make sound judgements on technical/commercial propositions
- credibility with senior industrialists and academics

Initial contract: up to 180 days over a 12 month period, working from home. Closing date for applications: 5th October 1990.

For more information contact:

Mrs Karen Eniter
Teaching Company Directorate
Surrey House, London Road
Farnborough, Dorset GU14 8AA
Tel: 0367 242822
Fax: 0367 242831

Teaching Company
Promoting performance through partnership

Programmers/Anal-Programs.

AS400/PS/3 in 8 mins experience.
Synon 2 useful but training given. Several positions in SW
Tel 071-224 1020
E.S.O.R.
(Per Cont)

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

appears in The Times every Thursday to advertise your vacancy phone
Claire Kaufman on 071 481 4481.

TAX ADVANTAGES \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Join the UNIX Challenge in America & obtain significant tax benefits.

Positions are currently on offer for specialists with experience from 2 years upward, including managerial.

We offer opportunities to work on state-of-the-art software. If you know UNIX & have any of the following

- C/C++ Kernel Internals
- Device Driver and Networking programming
- TCP/IP, X windows and Documentation Logs, etc.,

Please send your C.V. to Bob Reynolds, 3857 Birch St. Ste. 170 Newport Beach, CA, USA, 92660, or fax your C.V. to 0101 714 756-6648

If you have a D.P. background, but do not fit the precise qualifications, send your background for other considerations.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

Brown's an established Computer Systems house based in Slough, London, seek an Electronic Engineer to be an integral part of a strong technical support team, working within the IBM environment.

The successful candidate will be a recent graduate in Electronic Engineering, with a background in Data Communications and who is familiar with a range of computer systems. Good interpersonal skills supported by organisational ability are essential, as the position involves a high degree of contact with customers.

It is necessary to hold a current, clean driving licence and to be prepared to travel in the UK. The salary is negotiable and competitive, depending on qualifications and experience. Please apply with Standard Application Form or personal Curriculum Vitae to Adrian Gibb at: St. Agnes House, Cranwell Park, Bedfordshire, Bedford, MK43 5RD. NO AGENCIES

C/WP TRAINING

TECHNICAL TRAINING MANAGER
C/WP Computers seeks a Technical Training Manager for its London-based Training Centre. The Company specialises in the technical arena, courses include: Network Supervisor, Novell Networking, LAN Manager, PC Communications, Troubleshooting PCs and LANs.

The postholder will be responsible for training, course development, consultancy, managing trainers, reviewing existing course material and training facilities. Candidates should have proven managerial and training experience with extensive knowledge of the PC marketplace. In return, C/WP will offer a competitive salary. See below for contact details.

FREELANCE TECHNICAL TRAINERS
C/WP is also seeking freelance technical trainers to run the courses listed above. Trainers must have a technical background. Please write with current curriculum vitae to: Nigel Payer, C/WP Computers, 255 Southwick Bridge Road, London SE1 6NW.

مكتبة من الكتب

Sounds like a great ding-dong

The imminent launch in Britain of the first proper digital audio tape recorder, which gives compact disc quality sound coupled with the ability to record, marks the start of a public war between the music and electronics industries and a secret war between individual groups of electronics companies.

The launch of DAT, more than three years later than planned, results from last summer's agreement between the western record companies and the Japanese electronics industry.

The first recorders in Britain, from Sony's subsidiary Aiwa, will be on sale next month at £500, although the price is expected to fall if a mass market develops and the recorders become integrated into a new generation of stereo systems.

The recorder, claimed by Aiwa to be the world's smallest and lightest, can be connected to a stereo for home use, will work with batteries and headphones as a personal stereo, and can be used as a car hi-fi with an attachment. It will take two-hour tapes smaller than those used in conventional cassette recorders. The tape automatically numbers record tracks during recording to give an indexing system similar to that provided by CDs.

Other Japanese companies, including JVC, Denon, Technics and Sony, will produce recorders soon after. Sony is already selling DAT recorders in the United States.

Confusion surrounds the Serial Copy Management System (SCMS), which is at the heart of all the DAT recorders due to go on sale. All the

Barry Fox predicts a war between the music and electronics industries and a fight between the makers of a revolutionary recorder that will rival compact discs



Small miracle: the hand-held digital audio tape recorder and a diagram of how recorders have progressed

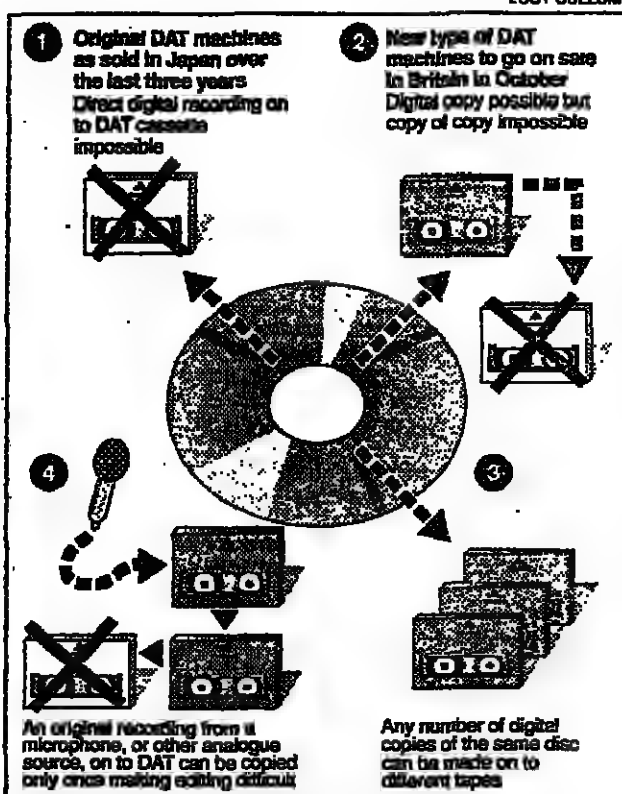
signs are that the record companies did not understand the significance of the technology to which they agreed. In fact, SCMS is the same as the Solocopy system that Philips proposed to the record companies three years ago, but which they then rejected out of hand. Now, as then, SCMS/Solocopy provides only illusory protection against the digital

cloning or copying of tape copies of commercial music recordings that the record companies fear. Paradoxically, it prevents creative tape recordists from editing their own original recordings, which represent no threat to the record companies.

The first DAT recorders launched in 1987 were officially sold only in Japan, but were unofficially avail-

able as expensive "grey imports" around the world. In an extraordinarily generous move, never technically appreciated by the record companies, the Japanese manufacturers voluntarily crippled these machines to prevent digital copying, so that they sold poorly.

In June 1989, the International Federation of the Phonographic



Industry (IFPI) agreed to the worldwide sale of DAT recorders that could copy digitally, provided they incorporated SCMS/Solocopy circuitry to prevent cloning, that is, copying copies. When the recorder digitally copies music from a CD on to tape, the SCMS/Solocopy circuit automatically writes an inaudible identification code into the bit stream on tape. Any other DAT recorder registers this code and refuses to copy the digital signal, so the copy tape cannot be copied.

There is, however, nothing to stop people from making several copies of a CD on to as many different tapes as they like. This takes no longer than copying tape copies. So the DAT machines now going on sale with the record companies' blessing are more of a threat to the record industry than the DAT machines they rejected. However, when a recording is made from an analogue source, such as a microphone, the circuits allow only one copy to be made.

As a result, enthusiasts will be unable to edit original recordings of interviews or birdsong or amateur music tapes, for example, because the only way to edit digital tapes is to copy them several times, just as video tapes are edited.

Sony has its own fallback product, simplified and miniaturised, known as Micro-DAT. So far, Sony talks about Micro-DAT only as a format for dictation, but the play is obvious. Micro-DAT could well be the ideal cheap and simple pocket digital audio format for the future.

Hong Kong staff reject Britain

Skills shortages mean vacancies exist in the colony for British IT specialists

Expectations of an influx of high-technology staff from Hong Kong may be unfilled, even though the local government this week predicted 62,000 people will leave the colony during 1990.

British consultants and computer societies report little interest from Hong Kong information technology (IT) staff wanting to move to the UK because most have little difficulty in emigrating to other countries.

Large numbers of IT staff have left Hong Kong permanently, although it was originally thought that many would return once they had got a foreign passport in the run-up to the 1997 handover of sovereignty to China.

Carlye Tsui, the head of the British Computer Society's Hong Kong section, says: "IT professionals are more mobile than some people of other professions because of the global demand for their skills and because countries such as Canada and Australia have made it easy for them to immigrate. Most emigrants wanted a passport as an insurance before returning to Hong Kong. In fact, only a small number has returned."

Under the key-worker scheme, the largest number of UK passports, about 70 per cent, is to be issued as part of a general allocation scheme. These include seven broad categories: business and management, accounting, engineering, information services, medicine and science, law and education. Engineering professionals will get 10 per cent of the passports and information services staff will get a further 6 per cent.

Judy Lau, the overseas representative of the Hong Kong Computer Society, says: "The number of IT staff getting the passport would be minimal. But emigrating will be no problem because IT is a mobile skill and in demand world-wide."

The exodus is increasing, according to UK recruitment agencies that have opened offices in Hong Kong to cater

JOBS SCENE

for the demand from IT staff wanting to find employment outside the colony. They report few requests for jobs in Britain. "The United States and Australia, in particular, offer a cosmopolitan environment and have more compatible cultures than the UK, where the Hong Kong person does not feel particularly welcome," says Tony Antoniadis, the managing director of EuroLink.

Australian companies looking for high-tech staff frequently advertise in the Hong Kong press, offering relocation and assistance in gaining citizenship as part of the package.

The high-level of emigration has led to a severe shortage of IT skills in Hong Kong, creating more opportunities for British specialists as many employers are miniaturising staff to fill the gap.

mainly at project leader or managerial level. Many of the middle-management people have left. Mr Antoniadis says that although the gap is being filled by promotions from within, it takes time to build up these management skills, so there are many vacancies.

One advantage for any British IT specialist wanting to work in Hong Kong is that year-long work permits are issued at the airport on arrival, and English is the dominant language.

About 90 per cent of vacancies are for IBM staff, the remainder for those with experience of Digital Equipment Systems. The demand for personal computer and Unix skills is growing rapidly.

Salaries are about £1,500 a week for experienced contract analysts/programmers. Rent and accommodation is expensive but salaries are increasing as the shortages worsen. Many companies are also seeking graduates with computer science degrees or diplomas.

LESLIE TILLEY

Beware the identified flying objects

Fears that an astronaut may be killed by man-made rubbish in orbit around Earth has led to the launch of a second space telescope project to assess the threat.

The £15 million programme, being co-ordinated by Nasa, the United States space agency, will attempt to pinpoint the size, speed and direction of minute objects in low earth and geostationary orbits during a shuttle mission set for 1996.

Human occupancy of Freedom, the American space station, is expected to take place by the end of the decade.

The rising threat from even tiny flecks of space debris means the craft is likely to be fitted with special shields, called Whipple shields, which

Hundreds of miles above Earth, deadly litter orbits at 20,000 miles an hour

will break up and deflect some hazardous objects.

The telescope mission will allow Nasa to decide if a similar, debris tracking instrument, allied to laser-powered collision avoidance systems, is needed to better defend the station and its crew during Freedom's 30-year life.

The findings may also lead to new communication satellites and other craft, being fitted with armour plating as way of securing the world's telephone, ship navigation and other satellite-linked networks from debris-induced disruptions.

Orbiting refuse, which includes defunct boosters, fragmented rockets, flecks of paint and even a pair of discarded astronaut's gloves, has grown alarmingly since space missions first began but the exact level is not known.

Ground-based radar, which is able to track only objects bigger than three inches in low earth orbit (up to 400 miles high) and one metre debris in geostationary orbit (about 22,000 miles high), has around 7,000 items in its sights.

What worries Nasa are the tiny fragments, sometimes travelling at speeds of up to 20,000mph and capable of impacting with the force of a

10-ton locomotive, that are going undetected.

New calculations by scientists indicate that up to one million 2mm items are in orbit, with the number growing as debris smashes into debris, splintering into more deadly particles.

Dr Faith Vilas of the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, Texas, and the space telescope's chief scientist, says Nasa is "seriously worried that an astronaut could be hit by the debris outside of the station".

An early warning system of potentially hazardous debris in orbit might give the astronaut a few vital minutes to retire to the relative safety of the space station.

NICK NUTTALL



Out of this world: even in space litter is a problem

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Pfizer

Experienced Statisticians

Pharmaceutical Research

Salary range £14,000 - £25,000 depending on experience

We are one of the world's foremost and highly-respected pharmaceutical companies with an exciting array of new medicines being launched on world markets and more new products being discovered and developed than ever before. As a result of our success, we now have career opportunities for experienced statisticians to work within our creative research environment.

Our Biometrics Department, currently 46 strong, is an expanding department of highly qualified and experienced statisticians and data managers. If you join us, you will be able to apply your statistical skills within a multi-disciplinary team and take advantage of our excellent computing facilities based on a VAX cluster, using statistical packages such as SAS, GENSTAT and BMDP.

As a statistician with Pfizer, you will either provide consultancy support to discovery scientists, or contribute fully to clinical project teams progressing human medicinals through phases I to III of clinical development. If you prefer, you could be an integral part of a specialist biometrics support group.

You should preferably have a degree in statistics and at least three years' experience working as an applied statistician in a biological or medical area. You will need to have the ability and desire to communicate statistical concepts within our environment.

We offer a broad and challenging role and place strong emphasis on training and personal development, to help each individual fulfil their potential.

Located on a modern and expanding research campus near the historic town of Sandwich, our rural coastal setting allows easy access to the City of Canterbury and the Continent. We have an active Sports and Social Club with first-class facilities. We offer generous relocation expenses and an excellent benefits package, including a performance-related bonus. Your highly competitive initial salary will depend on your experience.

If you would like to find out more about career opportunities in statistics with Pfizer, please write enclosing a CV to: Mrs Fiona Cox, Personnel Officer, Pfizer Central Research, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9NJ. Tel: 0304 618777.

Pfizer

Central Research

RAPRA TECHNOLOGY LTD.

OPPORTUNITIES IN PRODUCT TECHNOLOGY

Rapra Technology Limited is a major consultancy in the technology and business of all polymer related industries.

We have attractive openings for recently qualified graduates to work in our Plastics Products Section on problem solving in the area of polymer product performance. The project undertaken are both challenging and varied in scope and will provide an excellent opportunity for you to develop consultancy skills in areas of expertise which are increasingly in demand.

If you have a degree in Material Science, Physics or other appropriate technical discipline, and a keen interest in materials and products, combined with commercial awareness and good communications skills, we would like to hear from you.

A comprehensive benefits package includes BUPA and pension plan. For further information and application form please contact:

Janet Page
Rapra Technology Limited
Shawbury, Shropshire SY4 4NR, England.
Telephone Shawbury (0939) 250383.

WANTED COMPUTER SPECIALISTS

Rapidly growing London Computer Dealer requires trainee technical support staff. The job will involve all aspects of computer systems including installation and support of networks.

Suitable individuals must have drive and personality and be able to work accurately under pressure. This position would suit a science graduate with a flare for computing.

Call Phil Buckingham or Nick Gerard on 071 359 7778.

Business Systems Group Limited
23-26 St Albans Place
London N1 0NX

ENGINEERS

WIDE CHOICE OF POSITIONS
SOFTWARE TO HARDWARE
PROJECT TO PRODUCTION

All disciplines from graduate to senior management.

South East locations.

Phone or write to:

STUART CUMMING (0753) 831066

(REC CON)

ENGINEERS DIRECT, 115 ST. LEONARDS ROAD, WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE SL4 5JF. Tel: 0753 831066

DATAMATCH

A Caring Company
Matching Qualifications
to Job Specifications
ICL, IBM, BULL, H.P.,
NIXDORF

* A/C Mgrs/Sup
* Project Mgrs/Progs
* Trainers/Graduates
* CV's a Speciality

DATAMATCH
26/28 Molesey Rd,
Hersham, Surrey
Tel: 0932 253331

GOOD "A" LEVELS INTERESTED IN A Career in COMPUTING?

Computasoft is a young, expanding company specialising in software for the City.

We are looking for smart, articulate and self-motivated young people to start as junior programmers. Salary circa £9,000. Excellent prospects.

Please apply in writing to:
Corinne McEwan, Computasoft Ltd,
150 Strand, London WC2R 1JP.

Computasoft

OPERATIONS CONTROLLER

Broadsystem, Britain's leading telephone publishing company, now part of News International Plc, seeks a self-motivated Operations Controller, with some knowledge of telecom and computer technology. Responsibilities: Day-to-day scheduling of studios, including the organisation of script-writing, recording and editing. Oversight of technical and audio engineering department, although no in-depth technical knowledge is required. Supervision of response handling - the down-loading of audio cassettes and transcription of data captured. Project management of games development.

Progress chasing
Based in modern, open-plan offices next to TV-am in Camden Town, the successful applicant will head a small, highly motivated operations team, some of whom are freelancers.

Interested candidates should apply in writing, enclosing a full curriculum vitae, together with an indication of salary expectations to:-

Ian Parkinson, General Manager
Broadsystem Ltd, The Elephant House
Hawley Crescent, London NW1 8NP.

BROADSYSTEM
a subsidiary of News International plc

OPPORTUNITIES AT PILKINGTON COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT ENGINEERS BASED: CENTRAL LONDON & NORTH WALES

Pilkington Communications Systems Limited is a young dynamic company which is expanding rapidly within the telecommunications industry.

SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER - SALARY UP TO £19K

We are seeking an individual who has experience within the telecommunications industry. You will preferably have an HND/HND in communication or electronics, and will have worked within the industry for at least 5 years; and have been responsible for fault finding and maintenance issues associated with Local and Wide Area Networks. Experience of ethernet and TPR would be an advantage with the ability to supervise a small team of dedicated support engineers. Company transport will be provided, together with all the benefits associated with working for a major corporation.

Please call on 0746-044545 ext. 252 and speak to Juliet Smith for an application form.
Central London & N. Wales

MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttford

The Ministry of Defence's spokeswoman was genuinely surprised and slightly outraged when questioned about the suggestion that Iraqi soldiers had footwear better adapted for the desert than the British. She said that although she normally spoke for the army, and most of the expeditionary force were from the RAF, she would immediately have heard if there had been any trouble with feet or boots. The spokeswoman was right; boots and the army are irretrievably linked in everybody's minds. Soldiers have been taught to care for their boots (and feet) as carefully as their rifles, for a limping soldier is a liability. Down the ages, while the troops have been nurturing their boots, manufacturers have either made or lost fortunes supplying them. Wellington's armies found their boots sadly lacking in substance and suffered appalling foot troubles in consequence; so much so that in 1812 Sir Marc Isambard Brunel, the engineer and inventor (and father of Isambard Kingdom Brunel), was asked by Wellington to help. Brunel de-

Heavy on their feet

signed and built a machine which could turn out 400 good boots a day in any of nine different sizes, but after Waterloo the army cancelled the contract and Brunel went bankrupt. He was only prised from the King's Bench jail in Southwark by Wellington, who raised £5,000 to settle the debts.

In the Falklands, cold and damp rather than heat were the problems. At the time it seemed to those who had to wear them that the British boot was less efficient than those issued to other armies at preventing trench foot, the scourge of first world war infantrymen, which had made an unwelcome comeback. Subsequently army boot design has been changed. The



specifications of an army boot are difficult to meet and sometimes contradictory; the boot has to keep the feet dry for as long as possible, but if they do become waterlogged the water should be able to drain out. In hot weather the feet have to breathe. At all times the boot must be robust enough to protect the foot from damage from dropped equipment or ammunition, and preserve it from moving machinery and vehicles.

Trench foot is technically known as damp cold injury. When afflicted the feet become numb, swollen, pale and clammy, with soggy, macerated skin. The damage may have long-term effects: even though destruction to the deep tissues is less likely than with frostbite, months later the feet may still be swollen, sweaty and painful.

Sweaty feet will be the problem in the desert too and, as in damp cold injury, the skin is soggy and macerated. Fortunately treatment for any complicating fungal or yeast skin infections, commonly known as athlete's foot or foot rot, has improved since the British army was last in the desert. Doctors have now replaced Whitehead's varnish, and various other time-hallowed powders, with the imidazole and triazole antifungals, which as well as being available in the traditional powder and cream form can also be taken by mouth (the drugs Sporox and Diflucan), sprayed on (Pevaryl) or, if the nails are infected, used as a paint (Trosyl). Modern remedies are infinitely more effective than Whitehead's, and more hygienic and safer than the folk remedy of persuading a dog to lick the infected toes.

Strong-arm tactics

The news that the Prince of Wales had decided to have further surgery on his forearm in Nottingham must have been received by the hospital administrators with emotions similar to those of an Elizabethan landowner when he learnt that the monarch and her entourage were planning a visit — delight at the honour, apprehension at the cost.

Although the Prince may find it hard to believe now, he has been comparatively fortunate; fractures to the lower third of the humerus are notoriously difficult. Non-union is one of the complications which is usually amenable to treatment. Damage to the radial nerve with paralysis of the muscles of the wrist, thumb and some of the fingers might have caused permanent wrist drop and would have been much worse; better to go through life with a stiff elbow, as he will may do, than a feeble wrist. Likewise damage to the brachial artery, which can occur if the injury is just above the elbow, may so deprive the forearm muscles of nourishment that they become fibrous, and the hand contracts to a useless claw.

Plating the fracture does not always ensure subsequent union, and some can be very loath to heal, but results have been much better since the support and stability given by the plate have been supplemented by bone grafting, with tiny chips taken from the crest of the hip.

Excellent as his chef is reported to be at preparing nouvelle cuisine and vegetarian dishes, some doctors might question if it was a good idea to include him in the royal entou-

Eyes in the shade

A forehead protects the eyes, tucked away as they are beneath eaves formed by the front bones, not only from physical injury but, when the patient is upright, from the overhead rays of the sun. However, when people lie stretched out on Mediterranean beaches with their faces turned towards the sun, the eyes are no longer in the shadow of the forehead and damage may be done to the lens and the light-sensitive cells of the retina. In men additional protection is provided by a ridge of bone beneath the eyebrow, the supra-orbital ridge.

Professor John Marshall, of Moorfields eye hospital in London, has recently drawn attention to the increased hazard which would be posed to the eyes if the thinning of the ozone layer spread universally. If this happens, doctors would expect an increase in the number of cataracts, and a lowering of the age at which they cause disability. Although cataracts can now usually be treated by extraction of the opaque lens and the implantation of an artificial one, thereby sparing the patient pebble-thick spectacles, this will not save the retina from damage from ultraviolet light. Ophthalmologists would like to see people following the current fashion and wearing either panama hats or American baseball caps.

What price a dog's life?

Can replacement hips and plastic surgery be justified for pets?

Sally Brompton reports

Remarkable technological advances in animal surgery are causing an increasing moral dilemma for veterinary surgeons, who are being forced to decide between what they can and should do.

As medical techniques for the treatment of animals follow closely behind those used to deal with human illness, veterinary surgeons can now save and prolong their patients' lives in a way which was impossible even ten years ago.

Euthanasia, which was once the sole solution for many untreatable animal diseases, has become merely another option in the growing choice of available courses of action.

Animals can have pacemakers, artificial joints, plastic surgery, corneal grafting, chemotherapy, open-heart surgery and, theoretically, organ transplants. They can have their teeth crowned, artificial lenses implanted in their eyes and ultrasound scans for diagnostic purposes.

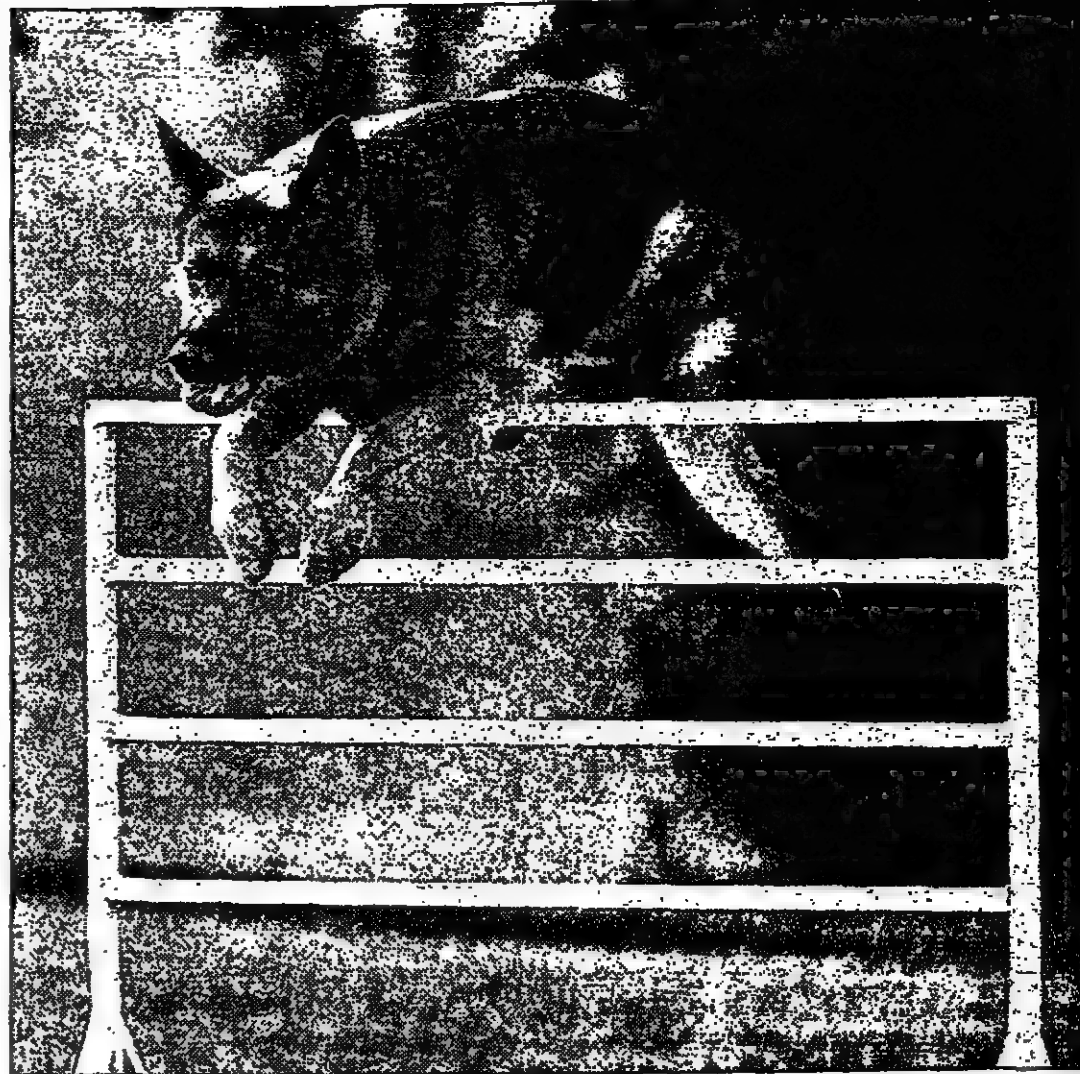
"In theory, anything which can be done on humans can be done on animals," says Gary Clayton Jones, an orthopaedic and thoracic surgeon and the director of the Queen Mother Hospital for Animals at the Royal Veterinary College, in London. "Technology has advanced to the stage where it is a matter of whether the owner can afford the treatment."

With a complicated major fracture costing up to £1,000 to repair, it is understandable that many pet owners think twice before deciding to go ahead with an operation.

"I am quite prepared to admit that we are part of a leisure industry in a sense and the way in which people spend their money on their pets is not for me to judge," says Dr Peter Darke, the senior lecturer at Edinburgh University's veterinary clinical studies department. "The other side of the coin is that if you are not advancing and trying new techniques, you stagnate."

Growing public demand for new and better medical treatment for pets is also creating technological advance. "Members of the public look at television and see people having renal and heart transplants and want to know why they can't have them for their animals," says Dr Dick White, the lecturer in small animal soft tissue surgery at Cambridge University's veterinary school.

The cost of treatment is clearly an important factor. Even so, according to Bradley Viner, a veterinary surgeon and the information officer of the British Veterinary Association: "There are conditions that will not get better no matter what you spend on them — otherwise rich people wouldn't die." The bill for treatment is frequently based on the



Improving by leaps and bounds: Seb, the police dog, after his operation to have artificial hip joints.

value of the animal involved — surgery to a racehorse will cost far more than the same operation on a family back. And the increased expectation of owners has resulted in a steep rise in cases of alleged medical negligence, with 700 claims expected this year, compared with 175 in 1980.

Mr Viner treats a variety of animal species at his practice in north London, including crocodiles, snakes, lizards, fish, hamsters and guinea pigs. He regularly carries out dental work on rabbits and recently amputated the leg of a gerbil which had been mangled in a wheel. "A much wider range of operations is being done in general practice," he says.

Mr Clayton Jones thinks it unlikely that anyone would carry out an operation for other than entirely justifiable reasons. "Obviously, there is interest if a new technique comes along, but I don't think there are people who would give treatment for the interest in doing it," he says.

Among the operations which most veterinary surgeons refuse to undertake on ethical grounds are cosmetic surgery — particularly those operations involving hereditary defects, and frequently including docking dogs' tails — and declawing cats. Organ transplants are also rare because of the ethical problems involved in finding a donor animal.

As well as the high cost of modern medical technology, there is the additional factor of whether the treatment is in the best inter-

ests of the animal. Veterinary surgeons are confronted with the problem of whether the results justify the means. "There are people who will go to almost any lengths to save their pet's lives but then we run into the ethics of whether it is fair to maintain a dog on 25 per cent of its previous efficiency to keep its owner happy," Mr Clayton Jones says.

"The decision about whether or not to go to surgery is always entirely the client's," Dr White says. "But the overriding consideration has to be the welfare of the patient and not the whim of the client. The question is whether treatment is going to add to the animal's quality of life and nowhere is that more true than dealing with cancer patients. Unlike humans, it is a matter of the quality of life and not simply maintaining life."

The age of the animal is not always relevant. Dr Darke fitted a pacemaker costing about £400 in a 13-year-old Pekinese which then lived for another two or three years. He says: "I would happily consider doing surgery knowing the dog only had six months left to live if it would improve the quality of its life."

There are, however, occasions when the veterinary surgeon is confronted with a situation where the owner's life is irrevocably entwined with that of the pet. "We get some heartbreaking cases with old ladies, or where a pet is the

family's only link with a child who has died," Dr White says. "The only rule is that you do your best — but the quality of life of the animal must still apply."

A police dog in Northamptonshire named Seb, a German shepherd, now aged three-and-a-half, was the first working dog in Britain to have artificial hip joints. He had operations on both his back hips. His handler, PC Brian Coe, aged 35, says that Seb "is now better than ever". Without the operation, Seb would have had to be put down because, as a working dog, he would not have been suitable as a household pet. Mr Clayton Jones and his team carried out the treatment without charge, but even the usual fee of £800 for each operation would have been less than the cost of buying and training a new police dog, which can be £10,000.

The moral question raised by the expending of so much skill, money and technology on animals is one with which most veterinary surgeons are familiar. "We are confusing two issues here," Dr White says. "The first is 'Is wealth fairly distributed?' The answer is that it is not. But that is a function of the politicians, not the veterinary profession."

"The other issue is 'Should we be treating animals at all?' Since we maintain them in a very artificial environment for our own needs and pleasures, we have a responsibility to look after them. The answer is to do the best possible job you can."

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL NEED YOUR HELP

The British Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Foundation will use your LEGACY ON DONATION and their veterinary knowledge in the cause of animal welfare.

Please contact us at 7 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0AT or Telephone 071 836 6541

On the trail of a killer

A couple's grief over the loss of a baby has led to a breakthrough by genetic researchers

Five years ago, Anita and Ken Macaulay celebrated the birth of their baby daughter, Jennifer. Their joy turned to grief when Jennifer was diagnosed as having spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).

SMA affects the nerve cells in the spine which pass messages from the brain to the body's muscles. Although children who suffer from a mild form of this crippling disease may survive into adulthood, those severely affected rarely reach their second birthday. Jennifer died when she was seven months old.

The Macaulays were told that the chances of a couple having a baby with SMA were "one in a million", as both parents had to be carriers of the affected gene.

Even so, the knowledge that there was a one in four chance that future children would suffer from the condition led Mrs Macaulay to find other parents for mutual support and to share information. This step had far-reaching consequences.

"At the time, I understood there were only three or four other families like us. So I wrote to all the baby magazines saying I wanted to start a support group," she says.

Now the Jennifer Trust for Spinal Muscular Atrophy has more than 400 members. Far from being rare, SMA was found to be, after cystic fibrosis, the most common genetic cause of infant death. About one in 60 people carries the gene. As a result, a research project was established, and in April this year scientists located the gene which causes SMA. This weekend the researchers who made the breakthrough will be addressing the trust's annual international conference at Stratford-upon-Avon.

Mrs Macaulay says: "Once you know where the gene is, you can test for it at six to seven weeks of pregnancy to predict whether a baby will have the disease. We also hope that the next stage will be in vitro testing, followed by pre-embryo implantation."

She adds: "We want another baby. We want to wait and see what happens in the light of current developments. At 33, I still have time."

LEE RODWELL

● The Jennifer Trust for Spinal Muscular Atrophy can be contacted at 11 Ash Tree Close, Welford, Warwick CV35 9SL (0789 842377).

EFFECTIVE TOOTHACHE TREATMENT

TOOFYPEGS™ TEMPORARY FILLING



Toothache? Lost Fillings? Loose Crowns? This can occur on holiday, at weekends or at night. TOOFYPEGS is a new emergency treatment that takes effect immediately. All contents are laboratory tested. Don't be caught out. Ask for TOOFYPEGS at your chemist or available direct. Price £2.85

D.E.A. Ltd
29a/b High Street, Billingshurst,
West Sussex RH14 9PP.

Eat Well.



Start your new year right with delicious, all natural Empire Kosher poultry.

To serve the finest, you must start with the very best. Empire Kosher chickens and turkeys are always succulent and tender, fresh and flavourful because of the extra time and care that goes into every bird. No artificial ingredients or growth stimulants are ever used, so you get poultry that's raised slowly and naturally, the way it should be. And special hand processing and stringent supervision ensure that

every product is unquestionably kosher and meets Empire Kosher's unsurpassed standards of quality, natural freshness and flavor.

When you want only the finest foods to grace your table, specify the all-natural poultry with a distinctive difference... Empire Kosher!



For a location near you, contact one of the following Empire Kosher U.K. Distributors: Foundation Foods, Unit 13, 724 Field End Rd., South Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0QW. Snowcrest, Ltd., 17-19 Brune Street, London E1 7NJ. B. Roenthal, Ltd., 18 Lyon Road, Lyon Road, East, Kearsley Bolton BL48NB. Empire Kosher Poultry, Inc., Mifflintown, Pennsylvania 17059 USA. The Most Trusted Name in Kosher Poultry & Foods.



If you can afford one of these a day you can afford BUPA.

For less than the cost of your daily journey to work, you can now have BUPA for the whole family. If you're aged between 35 and 39 for example, Budget BUPA gives you a family cover for about 40p per person per day.

Budget BUPA's a special scheme which gives you the essential elements of private health care with the country's leading independent health care organisation, just return the coupon for your free Budget BUPA brochure today. Or phone the Budget BUPA Centre free on 0800 010 383, (weekdays 9am to 8pm).

The Budget BUPA Centre, FREEPORT, Studio 2, TW16 1HR. Please send me a Budget BUPA pack, I am under 75.

NAME SURNAME

INITIALS SEX ☐ M ☐ F ☐ DATE OF BIRTH

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE (Home) (Work)

DATE OF BIRTH

Signature

Britain feels better for it.

When it's good to learn the hard way

Starting college can be traumatic. For most students it means living away from home for the first time and organising their own budget and study time. John O'Leary, *The Times* higher education correspondent, offers some advice

Going to college for the first time is a milestone in the life of most students. It means leaving home, new friends and, most of all, a new way of life.

In spite of the growing number of older students and others who choose a course at their local institution, the majority of students in higher education will be living away from home for the first time. Even those who have been to boarding school will find the freedom of life as a student a very different experience. The most confident "freshers" are bound to feel some anxiety about such a transformation in lifestyle.

Universities, polytechnics and colleges are accustomed to dealing with the problems of adjustment facing their new charges. Depending on the size and type of institution, there will be a variety of bodies to help students settle in, from reception committees and student unions to tutors, hall wardens or landladies and, most importantly, the many others who are in the same boat. If they fail, there will be a network of health and welfare services to turn to, some run by students and others by professionals.

There is nothing much anyone can do to ward off homesickness, apart from keeping in regular contact with family and friends,

but a little planning in accommodation, finance and even study methods can save a lot of heartache later.

In particular, it is essential to sort out accommodation as soon as possible. The housing position at the start of the academic year has been worsening in recent years as student numbers have outpaced facilities, and large numbers of students have been forced to live temporarily in holiday camps or campus caravans.

This situation all the indications are that there will be many more students in the universities, perhaps an extra 20,000 — and the polytechnics and colleges are likely to increase their intakes again. Most institutions give priority to first-year students, but few have enough accommodation to go round. An early visit to the accommodation office and, if necessary, other agencies is advisable where there is no guarantee of a place.

Self-catering flats are the current favourite among students, but the social life associated with halls of residence is usually thought to offer a big advantage for new arrivals. "Digs" are even making something of a comeback and may be the best option for those who think they will miss a family atmosphere. In some towns and cities, however, it will be a matter of taking the best you can find and

looking out for a better move later in the year.

Personal finance is another obvious area for some pre-planning. It is worth shopping around for the best banking deal and no student should start a course without a chat with a bank manager. Credit is widely available to students and, with their sources of income strictly limited, can cause difficulties if it is not handled sensibly. Financial worries can lead to academic failure and it is all too easy to end up on a credit blacklist that can mean serious trouble in later life.

This is not to say that students should avoid overdrafts. Few manage without one at some stage in their campus career. That time may even arrive straight away if you are the victim of one of the regular delays in the administration of student grants. The Surrey education department has already given warning that it has a backlog of 12,000 grant applications and has appealed to students not to telephone if they have not been notified yet. It is likely to be the first of several such warnings. Students should not panic, but make arrangements with their parents where possible or try a bank or building society.

Study skills are also worth thinking about before a course



Coping with a new lifestyle: Joanne Russell (left) talks to Sue Mead, a student counsellor at King's College, Surrey Street, London

starts. Usually there will be no need for more than the broadest reading on your chosen subject. There will be plenty of time to get to grips with content later, but it is easy to fall behind by failing to adapt to the freedom offered by further and higher education. Independent study, the use of libraries, disciplined reading and time management are important skills that may not have been

required at school. Arts and social science students are likely to have more free time than they are used to, while science and engineering students may be taxed by an unfamiliar pressure of work.

Other subjects on which parents or friends may want to offer advice are more delicate. Student life is not all sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll, but it would be naive to pretend that it will be a

sheltered existence. Many families will have tackled contraception, drugs and alcohol well before this, but it may be too late if it is left beyond the start of college. Usually, however, the survival skills required are simply those dictated by a life away from home: basic things such as simple cooking, operating a washing machine and ironing. A checklist for going away to college might include a straightforward cookery book for those in self-catering accommodation and the obvious toiletries and stationery. There is no point in loading down with items that are just as easily bought on or near campus, although a few stamps and a Phonocard might just act as a reminder that the anxieties that are usually so short-lived for the student may linger a little longer at home.

Facing change

Help and advice from many sources are readily available for students with academic or personal problems

FRESHER BLUES is a well-known phenomenon. Not every student will find life in higher education difficult and will sail through with ease, but most experience some problems settling down, however slight. Being forewarned may make freshers feel less anxious when it happens, and it helps to know that others are in the same boat. Even those students who appear mature and confident may be feeling nervous.

Leaving home, school and friends to begin a new life is the biggest transition many people have had to make since starting secondary school. They may not have formed any new friendships for some time and even those who think they are particularly independent can be homesick. The first evening in digs or hall can be lonely, but as soon as lectures begin and clubs and societies hold their first meetings, opportunities arise to meet people and make friends.

Another problem often encountered in the first term is money and how to manage it. Every student, whatever the size of their grant or allowance, needs to be able to budget properly. Apart from advice from parents, low-cost student survival guides, available in most book shops, would be a great help. The main change for students is the change in methods of study. Tutorials, with their requirement for student participation, and large formal lectures can come as a shock, although this varies according to the teaching methods students are accustomed to.

Alex Coren, of King's College counselling service in London, estimates that almost half of new students will have study-related difficulties half-way through the first term.

He says: "It may be that the impetus of A-level work has worn off, the difference in the amount of teacher attention received at school and university, or lack of immediate motivation. The goal of getting here has been achieved and the next one, getting a degree, seems a long way off."

Again, there are solutions. Students often get help first from informal networks. Friends can assist by discussing work and comparing notes taken during lectures, which is often an unfamiliar process. There are more formal methods of assistance available. It is quite common for institutions to hold study skills sessions for those with difficulties in adjusting to college methods. These are widely advertised, or they are mentioned by a tutor.

Some people go off the rails at the beginning. The unaccustomed freedom and the week containing few compulsory lectures can go to students' heads. However, it becomes a problem only if it goes on too long. One of the most valuable experiences in higher education is learning how to

manage time and this is a skill which employers of graduates rate highly. If problems persist, there are "official" sources of help, provided by the institutions and by students through the students' union. The union usually has a welfare section, which gives advice on grants, loans, accommodation costs, welfare benefits and legal matters. It can also refer students to the appropriate expert for further help. Many campuses run a nightline telephone help service provided by students for students. Anything can be discussed in confidence in the small hours when morale is sometimes low.

On the staff side, chaplains of all denominations visit regularly and are available to give advice, while doctors at college health centres not only take care of students' health, but are invariably good listeners, accustomed to dealing with all kinds of problems. The first point of contact for most students with a problem is the personal tutor, a member of the academic staff who is expected to keep an eye on students' work and to be available to help with any personal difficulties. Some good relationships are formed and tutors can be invaluable sources of help, as they are often the first to notice that something is wrong. Frequently, students present themselves to discuss an academic problem and end up discussing other problems. Some tutors are not naturalists in this role and this is where trained counsellors come in. Often found in the student services or medical centres, full-time staff are ready to discuss any kind of problem, from simple homesickness to something deeper.

At King's College, London, there is a team of counsellors based at the medical centre. Sue Mead, the student adviser, is often the first point of call. "My door is always open," she says, "and I may have a different caller every ten minutes. I get queries on grants, finance, accommodation, getting around London — all sorts of things."

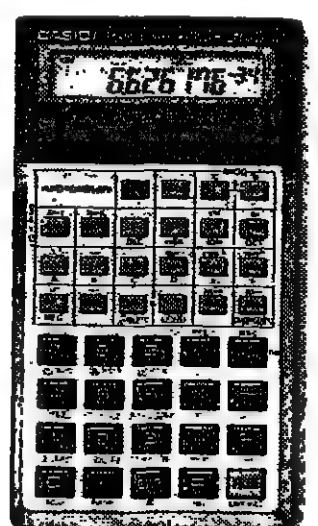
For more in-depth counselling, there are two qualified psychotherapists. Mr Coren explains: "We encourage students to come forward with anything that is worrying them. Some are shocked by the transition to university life, some are worried because it is not what they expected, others may experience difficulties in personal relationships. It doesn't matter. Everything is dealt with in confidence."

To ensure that nobody with any worries slips through the net, one of the team explains the service briefly to all new students during course time, and all personal tutors at King's receive a handbook from the counselling service.

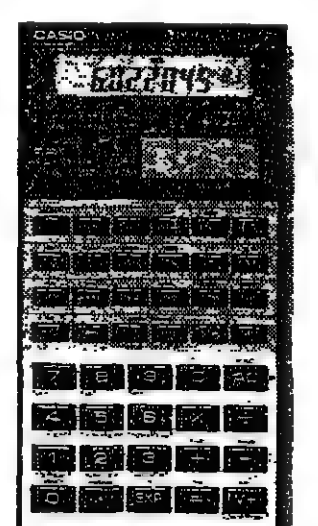
BERYL DIXON



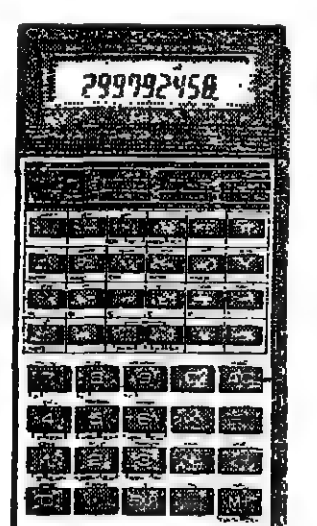
Casio FX-451M.....£17.95



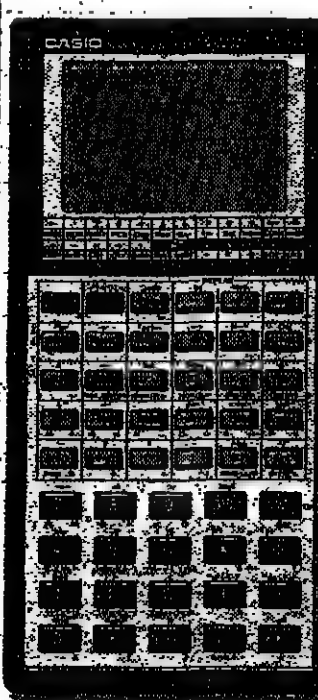
Casio FX-3800P.....£19.95



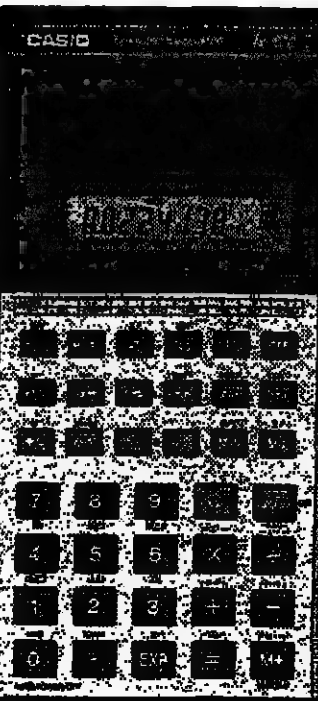
Casio FX-85V.....£11.95



Casio FX-570C.....£14.95



Casio FX-7000G.....£49.95



Casio FX-82D.....£7.95*



Solve all your problems at Smith's for a fraction of your funds.

How can you buy a scientific calculator without using up the sum total of your savings? The answer is simple, visit W H Smith. We have a huge number of calculators with thousands of functions that won't leave you with zero. There's more to discover at WHSMITH.

Institutions in the north are becoming more popular as accommodation costs become a determining factor in choosing where to study, Beryl Dixon writes

Placing a ceiling on student rents

The rising cost of accommodation means that students are having to take more into consideration when choosing where to study. Tim Walker, of the National Union of Students, says: "Students are going to have to become more financially wary."

Applications to institutions in towns regarded as low cost rose dramatically this year, with most northern universities and colleges receiving particularly high numbers. A survey by Leeds Polytechnic published in June showed that Leeds had a 13 per cent increase, while further north, applications to Teesside increased by 69 per cent.

According to Mr Walker, the differentials will widen as students begin to feel the effects of two pieces of government legislation. Until this year students were entitled to housing benefit. This meant that those renting private accommodation in London, where average prices for 1990-91 are expected to be between £50 and £60 weekly, were cushioned by being able to claim a rebate on rents of more than £29.

This is the first full year to see the effects of the 1988 Housing Act on the deregulation of rents. Students will now be in competition with other tenants for accommodation, the price of which may well increase.

Some towns are more expensive than others. London is, naturally, and grants are slightly higher as a result. However, college accommodation officers in southern England and Wales, where costs have also risen, feel aggrieved that their students do not receive similarly weighted grants.

There are surprising pockets where regional differences do not

apply. It is not possible to draw a line, say, from the Severn to the Wash, and assume that all areas north or south of that are equally expensive. In Brighton, students pay an average of £40 per week for private rented accommodation exclusive of bills; in the south-west outskirts of London, where there are three large colleges, £35; in Bournemouth, £35 upwards; in Bristol, £30-£35; but in Southampton, £28.

"We dread being rated a 'southern university'," Marion Lowe, of Southampton, says. "We can find plenty of reasonably priced places

'Some parents who have the means are buying properties as an investment and as somewhere for a student son or daughter to live'

and our poll tax, something else students must take into account, is low."

In Birmingham and Nottingham private-sector rents are £25-£30 and £26 respectively, while Edinburgh students can expect to pay £30 and Manchester university suggests that students should aim for £28.

Students living in private accommodation are at the mercy of local prices. Those living in a hall of residence will find that charges there also vary considerably, and this time geography is

not the deciding factor. Students with a single room in hall with meals provided can find themselves paying weekly charges of £56.30 at University College London, £53.80 in Bristol, £41.30 in Edinburgh, £45.44 in Portsmouth, £49.16 in Nottingham, and £47.50 in Manchester. Southampton charges £42.85 and the West London Institute is able to charge only £36.25, although with fewer meals included.

Prices largely depend on how much accommodation the institution was able to buy before property prices increased, or by how much it is able to subsidise costs. Most students want to live in hall in the first year, and parents are usually happier if they do so, knowing that food is provided, fuel bills are included and the rooms are generally of a good standard. If possible, it does make sense to opt for a hall place. It makes the transition from leaving home easier and is a good place to make friends.

Most universities and colleges guarantee hall places to all first-year students. Polytechnics, which with one or two exceptions are not able to house all first years, give them priority.

Some students do not wish to live in hall at all: many want to move out in the second year when they have found their feet and made friends with whom they would like to share a flat or house.

There is an alternative to the private rental sector in that a lot of institutions now own self-catering accommodation, either purpose-built or converted, which is let to students at much lower rents than are asked for privately. These can be ideal, but are often at a premium. Rents vary around Britain, starting at £18.70 (Leeds),



Shopping around: the cost of living in halls varies from institution to institution, often depending on how many rooms are available

with an average of £20-25, and are usually about two-thirds of the cost of private flats.

Costs need to be compared carefully, just as in the private sector. Some include heat and fuel; some charge rent in term time only while others expect a vacation renter.

Two alternatives remain. The first is bed and breakfast accommodation or bed, breakfast and evening meal - usually with a private family; sometimes, particularly in holiday resorts, small guest houses are glad to take students out of season.

In some towns where students cannot be guaranteed more than one year in college-owned accommodation, parents with the means are buying properties as an investment and as somewhere for a

student son or daughter to live, with friends as tenants. This solution is not within everyone's reach and local housing prices fluctuate. However, students are notoriously unconcerned about living in smart areas, so that even in an expensive town, such as Bristol, a three-bedroomed house three miles from the university can be bought for £35,000.

The going rate for a house in a "typical student area" suitable for three or four students to share in Manchester and Leicester is about £30,000; in Nottingham or Southampton £47-50,000; and in Brighton £65,000 upwards. Parents of Hull students could get a bargain. The university accommodation office says "very few do this, but a five-roomed house can be got for £15-20,000".



Learning to juggle the ever-tightening budget

The loss of housing benefit and the downgrading of grants are forcing students to live even more frugally than before

Student finance, which once meant the straightforward, difficult matter of making ends meet on a student grant, has become a complex and daunting subject in the past few years.

Only a handful could have failed to be aware of the big change taking place this year: the introduction of student loans. However, behind that is the loss of housing benefit and some other welfare entitlements, balanced only slightly by a plethora of offers from the banks and building societies. Add in the community charge and the result can be confusion and depression.

The only simple conclusion is that a student will have to live a frugal life to make ends meet. The education department has long since given up pretending that even the maximum student grant is sufficient to cover living expenses for the entire year.

This year's full grant is worth £2,265 for those living away from home and outside London, £2,845 in the capital and £1,795 for home-based students. Local authorities may pay only the home rate to those, other than married students and people assessed independently of their parents, whose home is within daily travelling distance of their place of study.

Many students will not qualify for a grant at all, either because they are on courses that are not "designated" or because their parents earn too much. But all degrees, external diplomas from the Business and Technician Education Council, initial teacher-training courses and some other diplomas do attract mandatory awards, as well as carrying an entitlement to one of the new loans.

Students on other courses may be lucky enough to get a discretionary award from their local education authority, but these have been in short supply in recent years. They may take into account examination results and carry the requirement that the recipient studies locally if a suitable course is available.

Most people starting a course in the coming term should know by now if they are eligible for a mandatory grant and how much they are to receive. Some education authorities are still dealing with a backlog of applications and there are always delays, giving the unlucky victims an early experience of a financial crisis. However, the delays should be relatively short-lived and easily dealt with, although that will be little immediate consolation to those who have not been able to make standby arrangements with parents or banks.

Banks and building societies compete fiercely for student accounts, not because they are likely to have any

money during their studies, but because they are often high earners in later life. Their withdrawal from the government's student loans scheme illustrates this competition; all the main banks pulled out as soon as Lloyds did for fear of losing potential customers.

As a result, students now have access to a variety of loans at rates that are the envy of other borrowers, although still not quite the same as grants. Five of the eight leading banks - Lloyds, Midland, NatWest, TSB and the Royal Bank of Scotland - are offering interest-free overdrafts of up to £300, beating the index-linked rates of the government scheme.

Repayment rates in the government scheme will be set annually at the official rate of inflation for the previous year. Graduates will have signed a direct debiting mandate when they took out the loan and will begin paying back in the April after completing a course. Repayments will be deferred only if a graduate's gross salary falls below a set figure, which this year would have stood at £965 per month.

Students will be able to borrow up to £460 a year in London and £420 elsewhere in Britain, with lower maxima for those living at home and for final-year students, who will be offered between £90 and £120 less to allow for the absence of a summer vacation. Applicants will need a bank or building society account because payments will be made by electronic transfer, and will have their eligibility certified by the college. Once all the forms have been completed, the Student Loans Company expects to produce the money, in a lump sum or in up to three instalments, within three weeks.

Even the National Union of Students, which remains strongly opposed to loans, recognises that its members are likely to take advantage of the scheme in large numbers. The government is expecting 85 per cent of those eligible to do so, but the union is anxious about the effect of withdrawing housing benefit, which had become a vital ingredient in the student economy, especially in London.

The community charge, too, is a new burden, even at the student rate of 20 per cent. Obtaining the student concession requires registration with the community charge registration office.

For those who find themselves in real difficulties, there are some official sources of help. Accompanying the new loans will be access funds for those who lose more in benefits than they can borrow and those in further education or on postgraduate courses, who are not eligible for loans. The funds are being allocated to universities, polytechnics and colleges to administer.

In addition, local authorities can pay up to £53.50 per week in hardship payments during vacations as well as the standard weekly supplements to mandatory awards for courses lasting more than 30 weeks a year. Anything over 45 weeks entitles the student to an extra grant for the whole year.

Some students manage to hold down a part-time job during term; others could not cope with coursework in such circumstances. Many students earn extra money in the vacations; others cannot because of the demands of their course or the lack of temporary work in certain parts of Britain. It is a matter of seeking out the best advice and muddling through.

JOHN O'LEARY

STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENTS

Figures apply to courses starting 1990-91

Length of course	Loan before repayment	No. monthly instalments	Monthly instalments	Repayments start
3 years	£1,995	60	£33	April 1994
4 years	£2,505	80	£31	April 1995
5 years	£3,450	84	£41	April 1996

SOURCE: DES

BIRKBECK COLLEGE
University of London

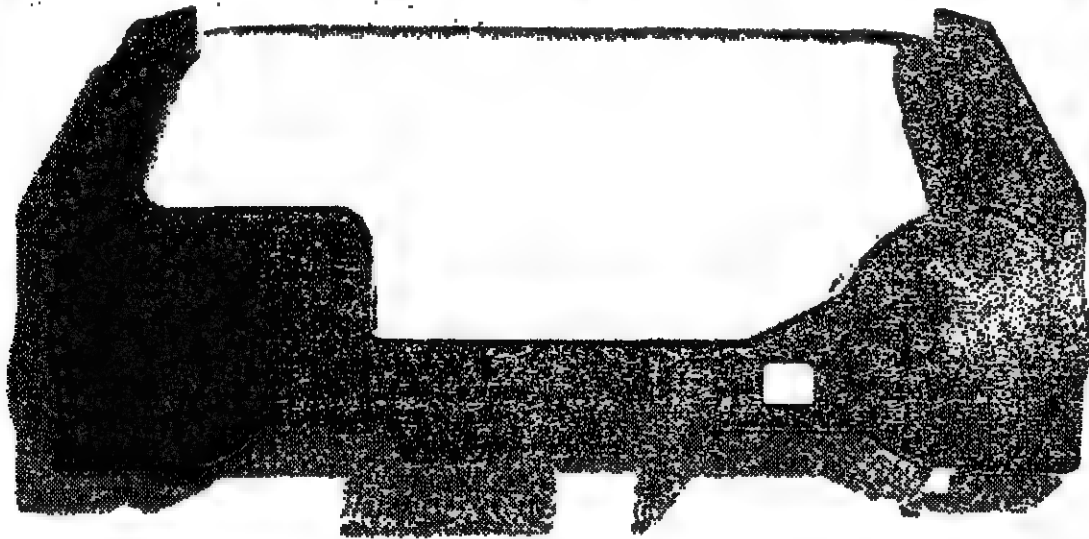
Thinking of starting a part-time course?
Birkbeck College offers evening degrees and extra-mural courses leading to a certificate, diploma or just for general interest.

EXTRA-MURAL OPEN DAY
Monday 10 September, 10.30 am to 8.30 pm
28 Russell Square, London WC1E 7HX

COLLEGE OPEN EVENING
Thursday 13 September, 5.30 - 8.30 pm
Malet Street, London WC1E 7HX

WE MAY WELL HAVE A COURSE TO SUIT YOU!
Extra-mural information 071-636 8000 ext 3833
Degree information 071-631 6390

THE ONLY CORRECTION SYSTEM THAT CREATES PERFECT SENTENCES.



Our exclusive Correcting Cassette, along with our Right Ribbon System™ feature, ensures foolproof, fumble-free correcting tape changes.



WordEraser
Erase an entire word with a single touch.



WordFind
WordFind finds your mistakes before anyone else does.



List
List displays the correct spelling and types it for you.



The Spell-Right™ Electronic Dictionary
beeps when you spell one of its 90,000 words incorrectly.

When you own a Smith Corona typewriter, correcting a mistake is as easy as making one. Thanks to our long list of incredibly advanced features, just a few of which you see here, you don't have to be a perfect typist to look perfect on paper.

For a complete demonstration of the remarkable Smith Corona correction system, visit your local Smith Corona stockist.

You'll learn that the only mistake you can make with a Smith Corona is not to buy one.



The XD 400 Memory Typewriter

☐ Please send details of the new Smith Corona product range.
☐ Please ask a representative to contact me.

Name: _____
Position: _____
Company: _____
Address: _____
Post Code: _____ Telephone: _____



TOMORROW'S TECHNOLOGY AT YOUR TOUCH™

Post this coupon to Smith Corona (UK) Ltd, 5A High Street, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD1 1HP

Smith Corona products are available from: Alkiers, Argos, Bantalls, Boots, Dixons, Gys, Kays, Littlewoods Mail Order, Menzies, Ryman, W H Smith, Widdow & leading office equipment dealers.

On the scruff side of intelligence

INSIDE a duff cover and behind the so-so title lurks a superior thriller and another innings for Harry Seddall. Seddall belongs to a distinguished line of maverick intelligence officers: a bit of Hannay, a bit of Bond, a bit of Harry Palmer, but mostly is his own scruffy man. Here he is embroiled in a Whitehall shake-up and a plot to discredit him: an impressive caravan of pursuers and pursued — including a Nazi war criminal and First XI hit-men — descend on Seddall's West Country home for a final shoot-out. Earlier committee in-fighting and drop-shot dialogue make for sophisticated prevarication. Mayo writes in praise of older women, provides a strong supporting cast (down to rude waiters), and shakes up stale formulas — violence with a double twist is a speciality. As sardonic as early Fleming, and better written. *Alpha minus.*

● With *Rascal Money* (Headline, £12.95, paperback, £7.99) Joseph R. Garber offers a seemingly hard-headed business thriller, which is in fact soft-centred. Characters of intimidating appearance turn out to be like their office equipment, user-friendly: the good guys, anyway, they being the executives of PegaSys Inc, a huge computer company threatened with takeover by a ramshackle outfit run by the delightfully incompetent Shaway. fronting for a menacing Japanese conglomerate. Beneath a seductive high-tech gloss, lurks that old Sax Rohmer xenophobia. This much one character has at least the grace to admit: "Yeah. Fu Manchu. Fiendish archcriminals. Sinister masterminds. A nefarious international conspiracy to keep me from going home to my Thanksgiving dinner." As for the PegaSys crew, are not so many acceptable faces of capitalism too much of a good thing? Pluses include instructive lessons on business dealings. More a matter of taste is the hyper writing that fingers the author for a jogger, a prose fitness freak, liable to fatigue sedentary readers. *Beta plus.*

● Hijack a tanker with arms bound for Iran, stir in reprisal terrorist kidnappings and much political chicanery, then drop a reliable ex-SAS major turned sec-

THRILLERS

Chris Pettit

CRY HAVOC
By J. K. Mayo
Collins Harvill, £12.95

urity agent in the middle to clear up. Terence Strong belongs to the action-man school of writing, backed up by hands-on research, here into the splintered world of Middle East extremist factions and in particular the Sons of Heaven (*Hodder & Stoughton, £13.95*), secret sword of Islam. Strong earns marks for a willingness to take on difficult homework — the dense subject of Islamic fanaticism — avoided by most thriller writers. But execution is padded sub-Fleming. *Beta minus.*

● Challenge by Warwick Collins (*Pan, £12.95*) culminates with the Soviets racing the US for the America's Cup in the year 2000, a political duel and a routine challenge that lets the author indulge his manifest obsession for sailing. While Warwick Collins doesn't manage to do for boats what Walter Tevis did for chess in *The Queen's Gambit* and make it compulsive to the uninitiated, his first half — a biography of the early sailing days of the US team leader — offers agreeably readable rites-of-passage stuff — virginities lost, character-building rivalries bonding into lifelong friendships, fights picked, and much briny tang. Deck-shoe wearers probably will enjoy the technical detail. *Beta.*

● Access to the files of a Swiss bank gains Rollo Naisby a nice little earner in *Eminent Persons* by Wilfred Greatorex (*Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £13*). Various public figures with financial skeletons are persuaded to invest \$2 million each in Naisby's Cayman Island stash. Neatly set up thus, neither author nor the feckless Naisby seem sure what to do. Officials and heavies dispatched to see up the plot are too faceless to register. Coppers come in shades of grey, toughs dispensing routine violence remain shadowy, and Naisby's charm fails to increase at the rate of his bank account. *Beta.*

Victoria Glendinning on the talk, and talk, of our New York Jewish Narcissus

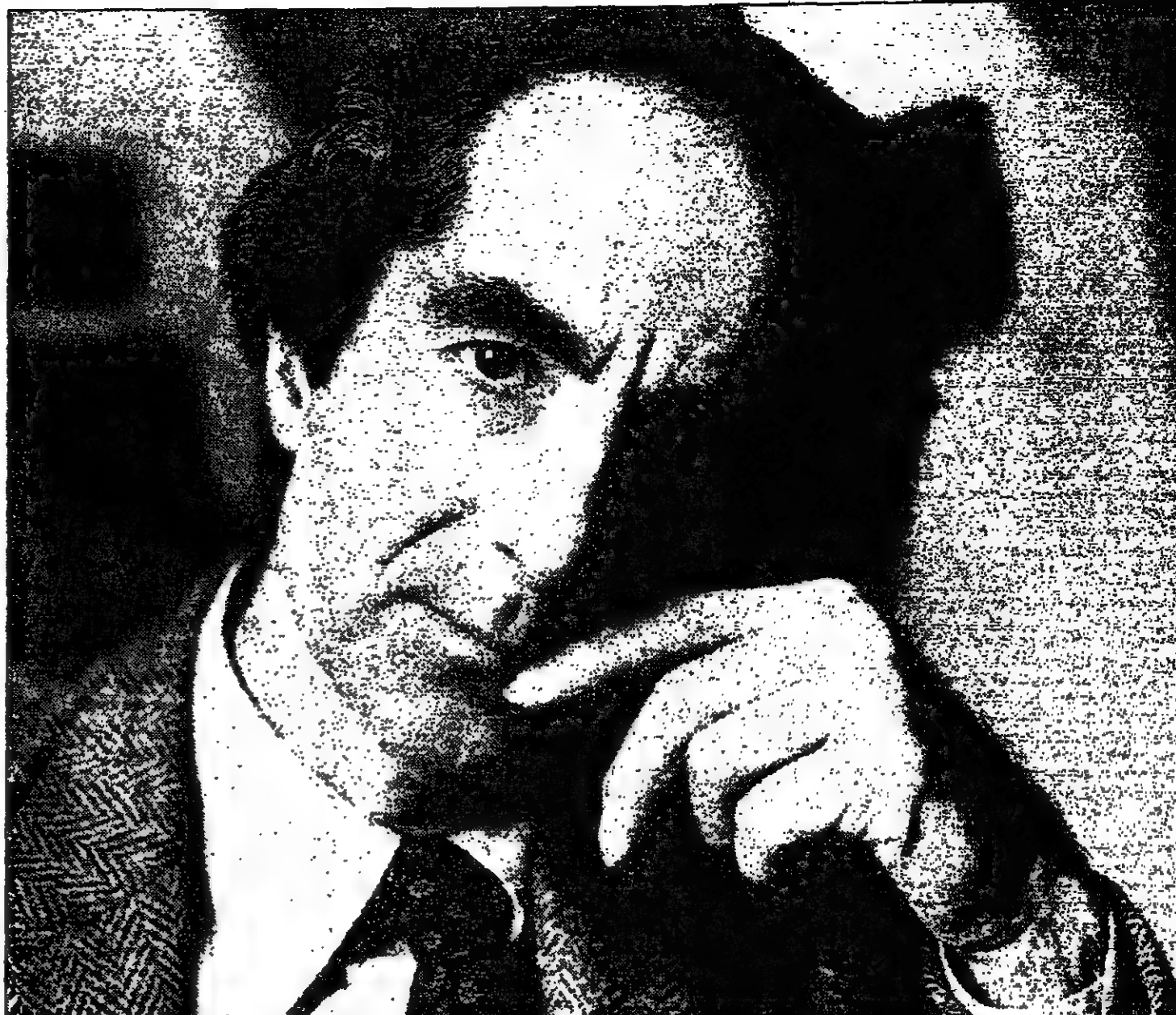
THIS book will be of interest to anyone who is interested in Philip Roth, and that's a lot of people, if only because *Portnoy's Complaint* changed the face (though the face wasn't the part of the body it featured) of the Jewish comic novel, and administered the authentic electric shock of the new. But Philip Roth can hardly be of greater interest to any of his readers than he is to himself.

Americans are much more tender towards the ego than we are. The British tend to see the ego as something that must be held in check for the soul's good and out of consideration for others; and a swollen ego is a case for treatment. Americans tend to nurture the ego as if it were each man's entry for a giant leek competition. Philip Roth has a prize-winning leek, even when it's passed off as some other leek, i.e. his alter ego.

The root idea in this book, which is one that runs through everything Roth has written recently, is the ambiguous relationship between his fiction and the raw experience out of which it is made. *Deception* is written entirely in dialogue. This poses the problem of knowing who is saying what, since there is never a "he said" or a "she said", and in some sections you get confused and have to work backwards and forwards muttering "him — her — him — her —" till you reach a clue.

Since the male speaker is American (and a Jewish novelist, called Philip), and the main female speaker is English, this difficulty does not augur well for Philip Roth's grasp of idiom. Philip's English mistress uses the phrase "a walk-up flat" to describe his work-place in Notting Hill. Yet Philip in the novel describes himself as a listener, or rather, "I'm an *écouteur* — an audiophile. I'm a talk fetishist."

The real deception of the novel is that it's about anyone other than Philip. He likes the woman to talk about him, and her unsatisfactory marriage, and the way she feels about their affair. There is some four-letter-word talk to convey that talking is not all they do. Sometimes they play "reality shift", and she pretends to be a stranger examining him about the nasty attitudes to women he displays in his novels. He com-



Philip Roth, on Philip's complaint, the solipsistic impersonation of the author as himself, and the self-importance of being Philip

plains to her about his "cultural displacement" in England, and the nasty attitudes of the English to Jews and Americans — with a sharp and funny bit about the table-talk of literary left-wingers at smart dinner-parties. Somewhere in here there is a potentially good novel about what Philip calls "cultural displacement", but it can't get out into the open, because he never leaves the Notting Hill room.

The English lady is not his only visitor. There is a Polish one, and a Czech one, and since we can't know who on earth they are unless they tell us, they make silted statements like, "I am Czechoslovakian girl, graduate of Russian

literature. I emigrated in USA in 1968 after the Russian tanks come." (Several paragraphs later she is talking correct English. Either Roth has cloth ears or he is lazy.)

There is also an old flame in America to whom Philip talks on the telephone. She has cancer. Maybe that's because she has already figured in his fiction. All his women go straight into his novels and all are damaged. The English lady has a lump on her cervix, and goes to group therapy. The Czech has had a major breakdown. Only Philip, pulling

the puppets' strings, is whole. The dialogues we are reading are their conversations transcribed into his notebook. Mostly they are true, which is like real life, but not compelling enough for fiction. "There's something to be said for shedding the expository fat," he says of his work in progress, "but I haven't thought it through." Too right he hasn't.

The crucial dialogue is with his wife, of whom we hear nothing till near the end. She has read the notebook, and is outraged that he can humiliate her by presenting his extramarital love life as fiction.

Knowing exactly who's who may be fun for his readers, she says, "but what about me?" He insists that it's all just imagination; a ventriloquist's trick, and she has no right to censor him. He won't even change the name Philip: "It's an impersonation of myself."

The overall implication is that the most interesting thing about a book is its writer. There's a most unusual note on the copyright page of *Deception*: "Philip Roth asserts his right to be identified as the author of his work." No problems. No one else but he could have written it (except, maybe, a vengeful woman with a talent for parody), and that in itself is a kind of triumph.

DECEPTION By Philip Roth Cape, £12.95

THIS SATURDAY
AT HARRODS,
JACKIE COLLINS SIGNS
COPIES OF
HER LATEST BOOK
'LADY BOSS.'
(OBSOLETELY WE'LL BE
TAKING ORDERS).

The glamorous bestselling authoress Jackie Collins comes to Harrods this Saturday to sign copies of her latest novel, 'Lady Boss'. It's a wicked yarn full of ambition, revenge and intrigue. You can meet Jackie Collins between 12.30 and 1.30pm in the Book Department on the Second Floor. If you cannot come to Harrods we'd be glad to take your order for a signed copy of the book, price £14.99, which can be reserved or sent to you (p&p £2.50 extra). Please allow at least 14 days for delivery.

'LADY BOSS' PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM HEINEMANN.

Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1. Tel: 071-730 1234.

Harrods

SONNY, in Nadine Gordimer's *My Son's Story*, is the father. He is the man of action, while his son Will (named after Shakespeare) is a writer who shapes the story of his father's life, giving it significance. Perhaps in the end, the child is always father of the man.

The family live happily in a small community of coloured people, where Sonny is the school teacher, steeped in the tradition of learning and of service. He loves his wife, carefully nurtures his own children, and leads his pupils towards whatever opportunities he can find for them. When the firmness of his belief leads him into the fight for freedom against oppression, the qualities that once made him a pillar of conformity now enable him to settle without fuss into a life of underground meetings, subterfuge, and practising to deceive. He accepts the need for secrecy without self-consciousness, and when the new life draws him into a passionate love affair with a white woman he accepts that too, because their relationship has been formed in a special and different morality, which needs a recasting of the meaning of love.

Will, loving his father, feels at first betrayed and then rebellious. His sister leaves home to be a freedom-fighter; his quiet, self-effacing mother takes to meeting mysterious friends in unfamiliar parts of town. She, too, it turns out, is working for the cause, storing bombs in the garage, and acting as messenger between contacts. Will feels himself becoming the centre and protector of a family now split apart by the pursuit of an ideal, which also holds them together. Gordimer has a long and deep understanding of the cross-pattern of public emotion and private feeling in South Africa. She displays, with great gentleness, the network of conflicting demands on this one

Loves and hates under apartheid

Anne Barnes

MY SON'S STORY



By Nadine Gordimer
Bloomsbury, £13.95

NECESSARY RITES
By Janice Elliott
Hodder & Stoughton, £11.95

DOCTOR DE MARR
By Paul Theroux
Hutchinson, £6.99

family living in a world where everything is determined by the political struggle, and the subterfuges required play strange tricks with frankness and falsity, making them often change places. She is too wise to resolve the questions she has raised. Her characters are symbols of a much wider conflict.

The Necessary Rites of Janice Elliott's world seem overlaboured in comparison. Moira and Dan are set firmly in an English university town, surrounded by children, dogs, freezer-dispensed dinners,

and neighbours just like themselves. The trouble is that it is Christmas, that terrible measuring time, when past tragedies and former happiness rise up to rebuke one in almost equal proportions, throwing intolerable strain on the robustness of this year's goodwill. Moira, dull even in her most reflective moments, does what she can. She cooks wholesome meals, gets in the Christmas decorations, invites a suicidal teenager to share the festivities, and ties a red ribbon to the dog's collar. Dan worries about his work, and lusts after his doctor's receptionist. Why are these people so paralytically dull, and why haven't they changed in the last 30 years? Perhaps it is because this sort of middle-class angst, based as it is on a point between self-congratulation and guilt, is simply now a literary convention which can no longer be developed, only deployed. Just occasionally Moira's sense of panic does strike true, but it is left to her son to provide some point of reality as he stumbles around trying to make sense of his parents' world.

Perhaps all parents are baffling to their children. In *Doctor De MARR*, Paul Theroux presents a detailed picture of identical twins, whose lives have been blighted by a father who brought them up to act out a perpetual freak show. Always dressed exactly alike, haircuts identical, every possession and experience shared, they have come to fear and loathe each other. As adults they live apart and out of communication, until

one day George arrives on Gerald's doorstep demanding to be let in. From then on Gerald's quiet life is swallowed up by George's more dangerous lifestyle. On one level, Theroux is telling a simple story of mistaken identity with a violent outcome. On another, he is making a sophisticated and lucid comment on the way an individual personality is made up from reflections of other people's lives and behaviour. Gerald is disturbed by the ease with which he steps into the life of the brother he hates. In this very short novel Theroux has placed every word to maximum effect. He can make even the calmest of moments seem violent.

Saturday Review

Victorian best-seller

Peter Ackroyd reviews the biography of Mrs Humphry Ward, whose novels outsold Dickens: *Wodehouse; Moorhouse*

The International Bestseller
SECOND WORLD WAR
MARTIN GILBERT

'A story of heroism and suffering... horrifying in its impact'
Financial Times
'A monumental new history'
Mail on Sunday
Fontana Paperbacks

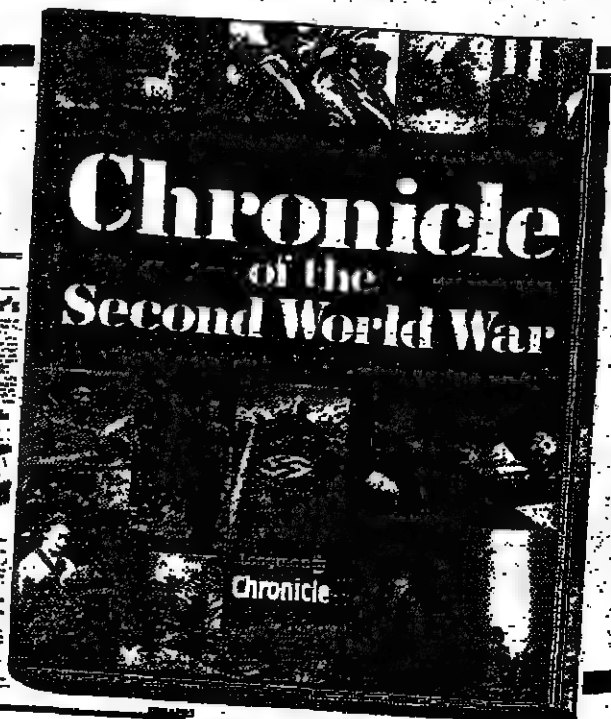
The ultimate book of the Second World War...

Relive the drama of the war, week by week, in the distinctive journalistic style which has made *Chronicle of the 20th Century* a record-breaking best-seller.



Now available through W. H. Smith, John Menzies, other good bookshops and leading retail outlets.

£29.95



ARTS

CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

Flights of fact and fantasy

David Robinson reviews the second world war drama *Memphis Belle*, *Waiting for the Light*, *Stella* and *Why Me?*

A first sight it might seem quixotic in 1990 to make a film about the crew of a second world war bomber-mission. Will the very young audience that dominates the cinema today be interested in the war memories of their grandparents?

Yet David Putnam, the producer of *Memphis Belle* (PG, on general release nationwide), has perhaps rightly anticipated that the film may respond to a spiritual need in our period of global anxiety and looming war. He presents visual memories of a time when entire populations united to combat evil.

The film is inspired by a feature length documentary, *The Memphis Belle*, made in 1943 by William Wyler, who flew with the American Eighth Air Force in England. Co-produced by Wyler's daughter, Catherine, the film recreates the final mission of the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress. The first concern of the film has been to recreate the period, and the experience of flying in those pre-electronic days.

Five B-17s known to be in service 55 years after the type was first introduced were recruited for the film, together with three German Messerschmitt fighters and eight American Mustangs. These veterans perform gracefully, vividly conveying the high tech of flying half-a-century ago. The only disappointments are some obvious model shots, which stay on screen long enough to damage the illusion that is elsewhere so well built up.

The crew of a Flying Fortress consists of ten men. The point of the film is to show how young they were — not heroes, but boys just out of school. To sustain interest in an entire group is always hard. The young actors are deft and charming, but Monte Merrick's script gives none of them the chance to sketch his character in more than two dimensions.

All Quiet on the Western Front, a similar but far greater war film to which this bears some resemblance, had two advantages: the action was spread over months (here it is a night and a day), and the story focused on one central character. Merrick's task in attempting to portray ten characters could have been easier if he had placed one of them in the foreground.

Directed confidently by Michael Caton-Jones (see interview, right), the film evokes the era

Recreating the missions of the Flying Fortress: Rascal (Sean Astin) and Danny (Eric Stoltz) in Michael Caton-Jones's *Memphis Belle*

admirably through the use of period film clichés. The most touching passages include most notably an interlude in which grainy old actuality film of bombing raids is overlaid with the words of the loved ones of dead airmen. The film, moreover, takes a great chance — which comes off — in a scene where a young airman (Eric Stoltz) stands on the airfield and recites a poem, which he claims as his own. He is lying, and the scene has the force it has because the poet is W. B. Yeats:

"I know that I shall meet my fate
Somewhere among the clouds above."

Waiting for the Light (PG, Cannon Tottenham Court Road) is a different view, comic this time, of the way communities react in times of crisis. This time we are in 1962, with middle America in jitters over the Cuban missile affair, and digging full-out

The English writer-director Christopher Monger sets his story in a small township in the Pacific north west, where single-mother Teri Gaur has inherited a run-down diner. She is accompanied by her two characterful children and her delinquent Aunt Zena, a retired circus magician. Zena, between devouring scandalous tabloids, delights the children with her own magical mischief.

In the Thirties tradition of small-town comedy, the film relates how Zena and her subverted young relatives use fireworks to convince the locality that miracles are happening in the garden of their next-door neighbour, the town grocer. People oppressed by the fear of nuclear war rush headlong into the shelter of religion and superstition. It is a pleasant fantasy, with a jolly performance by Shirley MacLaine, who seems now committed to playing such over-the-top eccentrics.

The Goldwyn family have shown great loyalty to Olive Higgins Prouty's tear-jerking novel of mother love, *Stella Dallas*. The first time Sam Goldwyn made it was as a silent film in 1925; the next version by Henry King boasted a great performance by Belle Bennett and Douglas Fairbanks Jr., and the third production, yet again by Goldwyn, featured Barbara Stanwyck.

Now Sam Goldwyn Jr has dug it out again as a vehicle for Bette Midler. The abbreviation of the title to *Stella* (13, Odeon Haymarket) reflects a token modernisation. In the original the heroine married above her station; now, in deference to contemporary mores while still straying out of her social class, she stays an unmarried mother.

Even allowing for the American obsession with class, the story has grown no less mawkish and improbable in the half-century since

it last surfaced, and credibility is constantly strained by Bette Midler's chameleon performance, as she switches from sacrificing mother to grotesque harpist.

Previous versions were made in more innocent times, and were saved by the intensity of their stars and the sensitivity of two great directors. *Stella*, directed with a very made-for-TV feel by John Erman, has no such saving graces.

As a dramatic actor (*Greyhound*, *Subway*, *Highlander*) Christopher Lambert has seemed progressively more inanimate. But *Why Me?* (15, Cannons Haymarket, Oxford Street) reveals his pleasant vitality as a comedian.

The film — directed by Gene Quintano — has not much else to offer. Harmless, if witless, it is conventional caper comedy, with Turkish patriots, Armenian terrorists, the CIA, federal police and the underworld all in frenzied pursuit of a stolen jewel.

CINEMA: INTERVIEW

Talent deserts to Tinseltown

Oscar Moore talks to Michael Caton-Jones, British director of *Memphis Belle*

Lost: one "great white hope", last seen shooting a \$24 million film about a American second world war bomber crew who flew 25 missions in a plane called *Memphis Belle*; he is wanted alive to face charges of desertion in the face of duty.

He may have been unofficially christened the "great white hope" of the British film industry, but Michael Caton-Jones does not feel obliged to stay home. The director of *Memphis Belle* and *Scandal* has moved to Hollywood, and if critics want to complain about another British talent deserting to Tinseltown, he thinks that is just not fair. After all, he never pretended that he wanted to spend the rest of his life struggling with the financial strictures of the beleaguered British film industry. And he certainly never pretended that he did not want to pay his respects at the film-maker's Necropolis.

"Over the last four years all I've wanted to do is go to Hollywood and make films," says the 32-year-old Scotsman, sounding almost wounded that anyone should criticise him or talk of defection. "Anyone who has ever known me has known that. I've made no bones about it at all. It's where my sensibilities are. The films that are my inspiration are the classics of American cinema of the Thirties and Forties: Ford, Hawks, Wyler, Capra. There are the films that I can watch again and again."

Caton-Jones has always wanted to make movies, a legacy from a childhood of free Saturday matinees (he was given a free cinema pass in return for delivering posters to long street shops). He arrived in London at the age of 18 where he worked as a stagehand in the West End, while continuing to write short stories. "In retrospect I can see that being a stagehand gave me a taste for the physical production side of things, while the writing was taking care of the intellectual side. And when I discovered directing it was the perfect synthesis of the two sides of my nature. From then on it was very obvious what I wanted to do."

In his early twenties, Caton-Jones bagged out-of-work actor

friends to appear in a series of home-made shorts. "I wrote, shot and directed the first one in a week. It had Maureen Lipman in it, which was great. I wrote and directed three films in six months, so then I thought I'd better find out why I was doing this and I applied to the National Film School."

His first-year film, *Liebe Mutter*, an obliquely autobiographical film about a German arriving in London for the first time, won the Best European Student Film Award in Munich and was bought by both German television and Channel 4. His second film, *The River*, was screened at the Edinburgh Film Festival where it attracted the attention of David Benedictus, then a commissioning editor at Channel 4, who gave the student director his first professional job.

"To me, the joy of making films is that they are the sum total of every single person's contribution," says Caton-Jones. "You change one person and you have a totally different film. You can't control everything so why try? Why not make room for people to do good work and then select the best? Everybody's got a good idea somewhere. It just comes down to me being the person who says yes or no."

Why now, after two hit films in Britain, is Caton-Jones leaving for Los Angeles, a city he describes as a "cultural desert"? "It is really difficult to get films made in this country. After I finished *Scandal* I had 33 scripts from America and one from England. I felt that I was banging my head against a brick wall. Then *Memphis Belle* came along and it was exactly the opposite to *Scandal* so it was very attractive to me." Despite being shot in England, the film, with its ensemble of young American actors, convinced Caton-Jones that he belonged overseas.

"I feel far closer spiritually to the American sensibility. I had a whole of a time with these actors. I really found them fantastically liberating. Americans on the whole are much less cynical than we are. I love their energy. I love their enthusiasm. It was all very refreshing after working in this country, where the attitude is always, 'we'll never be able to do that. It's too expensive.'"

"I would love to stay here and make films. But if you cannot even get to first base with a project it is too frustrating. The thing is, in America they make films all the time."

CRITIC'S CHOICE VIDEO

A weekly selection of films recently released on video. The year refers to the date of first release, or for television films, of first broadcast.

ALWAYS (OC, PG) Steven Spielberg's plain, charming, but ultimately pointless remake of the wartime fantasy *A Guy Named Joe*, with Richard Dreyfuss in Spencer Tracy's old role as the dead pilot returning to lend a hand. 1990.

THE COMANCHEROS (CBS/Fox, PG) John Wayne as Jake Cutter, the Texas Ranger who always gets his man, rounding up the renegades selling Comanches guns and booze. A breezy, sprawling kind of Western — and the last film of its notable director, Michael Curtiz. 1981.

SPRINGTIME IN THE ROCKIES (CBS/Fox, U) Forget the anodyne plot — best instead on the afterlife scene (Betty Grable, Carmen Miranda), the lush Technicolor, and the spectacle of wartime escapism running riot. 1942.

THE FABULOUS FLEISCHER POLIO (Legend, U) Two volumes of vintage cartoons from the creators of Betty Boop, Popeye, and the *Out of the Inkwell* series.

POOLS OF FORTUNE (Palace, 15) Fragmentary, insouciant and end treatment of William Trevor's novel about an Irish family in the Twenties, destroyed by the political troubles. With Ian Glen, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio and Julie Christie. 1990.

GLORY (RCA/Columbia, 15) Competing salute to the black soldiers who fought for the Union cause in the American Civil War.

with Matthew Broderick as a callow colonel and Denzel Washington as a runaway slave under his command. Directed by Edward Zwick. 1990.

KID GALAHAD (Warner, PG) Lively boxing melodrama, with Edward G. Robinson as the ruthless promoter turning a sappy bethrop (Wayne Morris) into a prize fighter. The girlfriend dodging the punches is Bette Davis. Director, Michael Curtiz. 1937.

THE LION IN WINTER (Channel 5, 15) Plantagenets gather for Christmas and quarrel. James Gammon's play gives Peter

O'Toole (Henry II) and Katharine Hepburn (Eleanor of Aquitaine) much to gal their teeth into though the handsome production only emphasises the material's theatrical contrivances. Director, Anthony Harvey. 1968.

LISZTOMANIA (Warner, 18) Tawdry showcase for Ken Russell's worst excesses, with Roger Daltrey, fresh from *Tommy*, as a hopelessly vulgarised Franz Liszt, cast in the mould of a rock music performer. Strong stomachs are required. 1975.

TIN MEN (Buena Vista, 15) Bright, inventive comedy-drama from writer-director Barry Levinson, with Richard Dreyfuss and Danny DeVito as warring home improvement salesmen — one slick, one slovenly. 1987.

GEOFF BROWN

BRIEFING

Jam but few additives

THE Hard Rock Café, the preferred West End eatery for the rock 'n' roll demi-monde, has hit on a novel way to mark the 20th anniversary of Jimi Hendrix's death. On September 18 the café will host an Irish wake, a private musical celebration in honour of Hendrix's memory. This star-laden affair is being organised by Mitch Mitchell, former drummer of the Jimi Hendrix Experience, who is hoping to get "all the people who should be there" involved in a commemorative jam session.

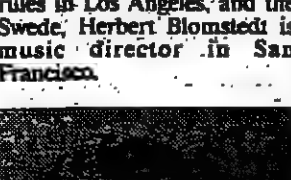
The trouble is that, after so many years, it is proving difficult to track down some of the 200 invitees on Mitchell's list. Peter Green, who impressed Hendrix more than any other English guitarist, is now a recluse and unlikely to turn up. And Mitchell has had no luck in contacting Dusty Springfield, with whom Hendrix once sang a duet of "Mockingbird", or Eric Burdon, the ex-Animals singer. Dusty and Eric, your invitations await.

Foreign policy
AMERICAN orchestras apparently still cling to the belief that the only great conductor is a non-American one. That was confirmed again by the announcement that the Cleveland Orchestra is extending the contract of German conductor Christoph von Dohnányi as music-director by a further five years.

Dohnányi, is conducting the Cleveland Orchestra at the Proms tonight.

The other top American orchestras are equally dazzled by foreigners. Kurt Masur (German) has recently been appointed in New York. Riccardo Muti (Italian) has served a long stint in Philadel-

phia, as has Seiji Ozawa (Japanese) in Boston. The Argentine-born Daniel Barenboim has taken over from the Anglo-Hungarian Sir Georg Solti in Chicago; the Finnish maestro Esa-Pekka Salonen rules in Los Angeles, and the Swede, Herbert Blomstedt is music director in San Francisco.



New contract: Dohnányi

Harvest of opera
ARMCHAIR opera buffs have never had it so good, claims the BBC. The autumn season on BBC 2 will be led by a transmission of Wagner's *Ring* cycle, transmitted in weekly instalments from October 6. The production will be by Nikolaus Lehnhoff for the Munich Opera, conducted by Wolfgang Sawallisch. Glyndebourne Touring Opera's production of Britten's *Death in Venice*, Mark-Anthony Turnage's operatic treatment of Sieben Berkoff's *Greek*, and a repeat of the prize-winning film of *Bluebeard's Castle*, will also be among the highlights.

Later transmissions include Covent Garden's *Cunning Little Vixen*, Glyndebourne's *Figaro* conducted by Simon Rattle; Handel's *Giulio Cesare* in a modern-day production by Peter Sellars; and John Eliot Gardiner's version of *Pelléas et Mélisande*.

TELEVISION

The casualties of war and peace

AS GERMANY reunites, it starts to consider its own past in the light of fresh evidence. Some of that came to BBC 2 last night when *Timewatch*, consistently the best historical documentary series on television, examined the findings of a Canadian novelist, James Bacque, who contends that a million Germans died as prisoners of the Allies in the early summer of 1945.

By April 1945, with the sudden collapse of Berlin, five million Germans were on their way to American prisoner-of-war camps. Newsweek footage of German concentration camps caused the American guards, many of them exhausted combat veterans, to question their responsibilities towards a nation which had behaved with such bestiality.

The official line from Washington was that Geneva Convention rules were to be obeyed if the Allies were not to descend to the level of their enemies. Even so, 1,200 Germans are known to have died in a month at one Remagen camp alone, where survivors were left standing in holes they themselves had dug in open fields for protection.

Wrist-watches were stolen by American guards and Germans were allowed to drown when they slipped into trenches of their own urine. German and American witnesses talked of sheds full of food undelivered to German prisoners, hundreds of whom were left to die.

Mismanagement and carelessness are perhaps the greatest charges that could be brought against the American army on the Rhine in the early weeks of peace. With scenes of unimaginable Nazi brutality being printed in such army newspapers as *The Stars and*

Stripes, it is not surprising that German captives received little sympathy.

But the mystery is that for more than 40 years so much secrecy on the subject has been achieved. Was it in the West German interest to avoid any suggestion that Americans could have behaved less than admirably, or were Americans unable to face the fact that their prisoners were forced to eat grass and left to die of malnutrition?

Another chilling documentary last night, this one for *Inside Story* (BBC 1), looked at the ongoing war on the roads: every week of every year in Britain 95 people die, as many as died at Hillsborough, and several as a result of reckless or careless driving. Yet it is still possible to kill someone while unfit through drink and get away with a fine of no more than £400. One bereaved mother reckoned that a court had assessed her children's lives at less than £100 each, while another was fined as much for taking an axe to the windscreen of the car which had killed her son as did the driver for killing him.

The government has still given no date for a White Paper on the subject, and by tonight there will be another 15 corpses. Definitions of reckless or even careless driving are often hard for a jury to achieve, while death itself is usually considered only incidental to the driving charge.

Natural justice and criminal law appear here to be on opposite sides of the courtroom. Only the tragic rage of the bereaved is at present likely to achieve any real change.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

Hayward Gallery
South Bank Centre, London

6 September to 4 November 1990

Daily 10 to 6 (late nights Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 8)

Sponsored by
Banco Bilbao Vizcaya

Supported by
The Basque Government and The Henry Moore Foundation.

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong

first direct
0800 22 2000

40

midland bank plc.

Enquiry backs proposal for Hinkley Point nuclear plant

By DAVID YOUNG

JOHN Wakeham, the energy secretary, is to announce today that controversial plans to build Britain's next nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, Somerset, have been approved by a public enquiry.

The final decision on whether the power station, the third nuclear power plant on the site, will be built, will depend on the outcome of a government review of the entire nuclear option in 1994. However, the clearing of the formal planning hurdle by the project will be a considerable boost to the nuclear power industry and a disappointment to environmental groups that had hoped that privatisation of the power industry would finally kill Britain's nuclear power programme.

It will mean that the team of nuclear engineers working on the project will be kept together by Nuclear Electric, the state company that will run the nuclear network after privatisation.

Mr Wakeham will use the recall of Parliament to answer a written parliamentary question allowing publication of the 3,000-page report on the public enquiry conducted by Michael Barnes, QC.

The Central Electricity Generating Board, the predecessor of Nuclear Electric, pressed ahead with its application for the Hinkley plant in spite of a government decision to halt the building of further nuclear stations, at least until 1994, when an economic review is scheduled.

The company wants to establish an option to build a pressurised-water-cooled (PWR) reactor at Hinkley Point if the nuclear building programme is resumed. It has withdrawn applications for two further PWRs, at Wylfa, Anglesey, and Sizewell.

The £10 million, year-long public enquiry ended in November, soon after the Government withdrew nuclear power from privatisation and halted construction of further plants until 1994.

The application to build at Hinkley Point has become a highly controversial attempt to establish a future option for Nuclear Electric. Opponents have described the refusal to abandon the Hinkley application as a face-saving exercise.

Nuclear Electric takes the view that winning approval for the plant now would avoid substantial delay if the 1994 review favours resumed nuclear expansion. However, opponents will argue that a new enquiry should be called.

Progress in research into issues such as safety and radioactive waste management will have rendered out of date much of the evidence given to the enquiry. The inspector has examined broad safety and environmental questions and his recommendations are also likely to have implications for

existing nuclear stations, including Sizewell B.

The Hinkley Point C project has been opposed by more than 20,000 individuals and organisations, including national environmental groups and a consortium of local authorities.

There are already two nuclear power stations at Hinkley Point, and, by the time a third could be built, the oldest plant, a first-generation Magnox power station, is almost certain to be closed.

The industry says nuclear power does have a significant role because it can replace coal-fired stations that produce large amounts of carbon dioxide, one of the main greenhouse gases.

However, opponents said that using nuclear power in this way will merely divert money from energy conservation, which, they claim, would be more effective in reducing global warming.

The first contracts for work on the project have already been placed. The contract is with Framatome, the French nuclear power plant builder, which will supply the reactor for the station.

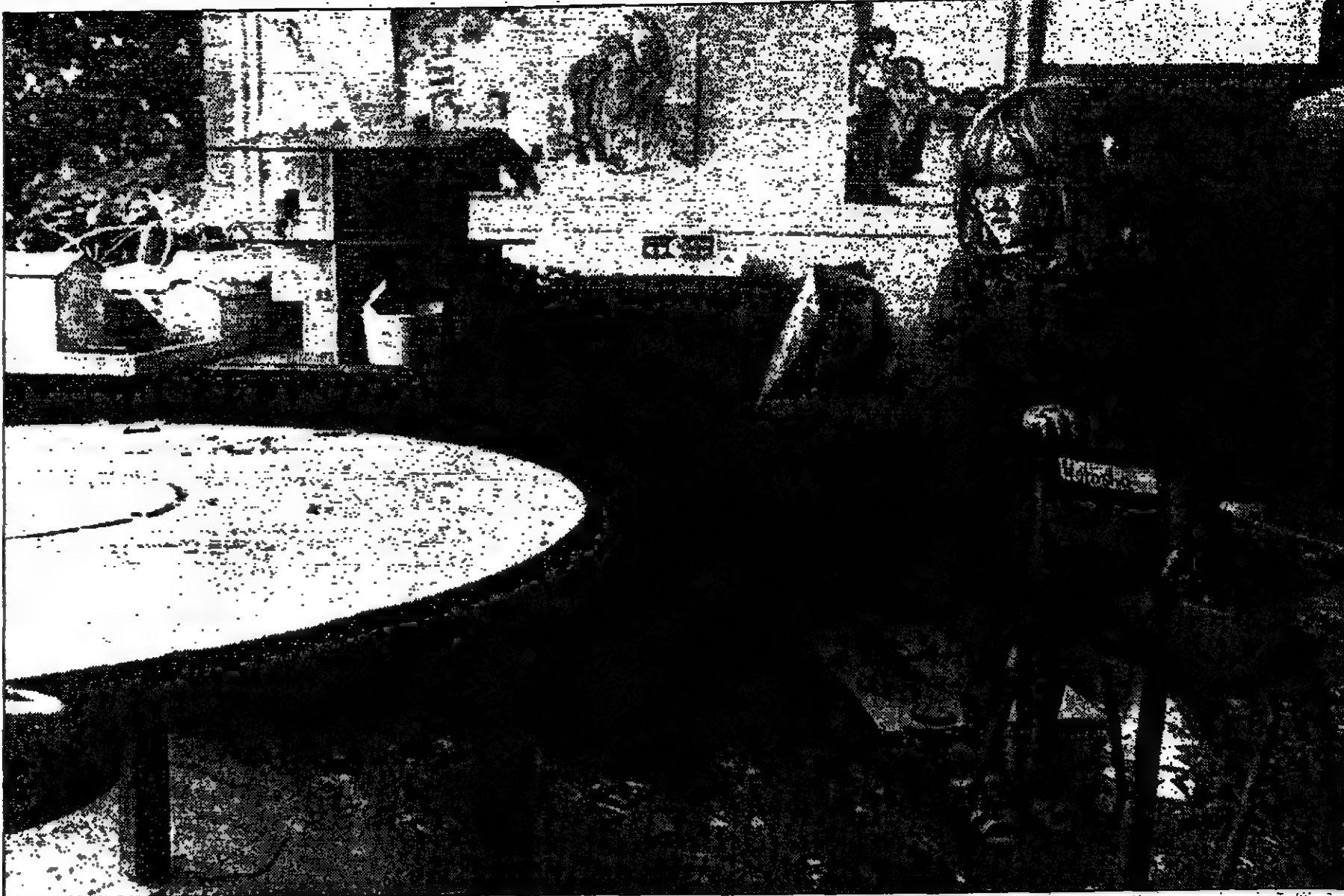
Hinkley's reactor pressure vessel would be the second that Framatome would produce for the British PWR nuclear programme. It will be almost identical to the one for Sizewell B, Britain's first PWR station, which Framatome delivered this year.

Britain's nuclear electricity programme began in 1953, when the British Electricity Authority, forerunner of the CEB, formed a nuclear power branch.

In 1955, the first nuclear power station programme was launched, with the government ordering Magnox-type plants with combined capacity of 2,000MW.

In 1962, there was a switch to Advanced Gas Cooled reactors (AGRs). The first five AGRs were ordered: Dungeness B, Hinkley Point B, Hartlepool, Heysham and Hunterston B.

Three more Magnoxes, Trawsfynydd, Hinkley Point A and Dungeness A, became operational in 1965. In 1976, the first AGRs, Hinkley Point B and Hunterston B, were commissioned.



IRA education: Natasha Wilson, aged four, arriving for her third day at school in Loughgall, Co. Armagh, yesterday found her classroom wrecked by an IRA bomb. Several police officers were slightly injured when the device containing 1,200lb

of explosives blew up after a warning. Apart from the school, a police station, a church and 30 houses were damaged in the blast. Two brothers were injured when terrorists opened fire on their van in an ambush

outside Magherafelt, Co. Londonderry yesterday. The men worked for a local construction company which in the past has been targeted by the IRA for carrying out sub-contract work for the security forces in Northern Ireland. The transit van

carrying the building workers managed to drive on through the ambush to the Mid Ulster hospital where they were treated for gunshot wounds. Their condition later was described as "comfortable."

China closes last ivory loophole

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

CHINA, the last country officially permitting the import of ivory, is to join the worldwide ban on the trade from next January, it was learnt yesterday, thus putting a formal end to the international ivory market.

The Chinese government has told the Lausanne-based Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) that on January 11 it will withdraw the reservation it took out when the ban was agreed last October.

Although seven states exempted themselves from the ban, five African countries, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Botswana and

South Africa were ivory producers and exporters, and only China and Hong Kong, with a six-month exemption declared on its behalf by Britain, said they would carry on importing. Since the Hong Kong reservation lapsed in mid-July China has been the sole destination for ivory exports.

However, China's ivory carving industry has collapsed since the ban came into force in January and Peking feels there is no longer an economic justification for the potential international opprobrium to be incurred by maintaining the ivory trade alone.

Last night Simon Lyster, the international conservation officer of the World Wide Fund for Nature, hailed the Chinese decision as the final nail in the coffin of the ivory trade. "We are delighted," he said. "There will now be no legal market for African ivory as the exporter countries will have nowhere to sell it. That's very good news for the African elephant."

Mr Lyster said the ban was working remarkably well. "Prices for ivory have crashed," he said. "In East Africa 18 months ago ivory was fetching between \$150 and \$200 dollars a kilo. Now it is down to \$3."

German unity treaty faces Soviet hurdle

FROM ANNE MCILVOY IN EAST BERLIN

THE final round of talks on international aspects of German unification hit a last-minute hitch yesterday over details of Soviet troop withdrawal from East Germany.

Senior civil servants from East and West Germany met officials from the four second world war allies in East Berlin to draft the final accord on unity due to be signed by the foreign ministers of the six countries in Moscow next Wednesday.

Diplomats attending the two-plus-four talks said last night that arrangements for the withdrawal of the 360,000 Soviet troops were holding up their completion. The preamble to the accord, and the formula laying down the borders of a unified Germany have been drawn up, but the status of the Soviet forces between now and 1994 in what will be a Nato member country remain controversial.

The talks were extended into the night to try to complete them on schedule, but the matter is thought unlikely to hold up the timetable for unification scheduled for October 3 or next week's meeting of foreign ministers in Moscow.

Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, has agreed with President Gorbachev that the forces will quit East Germany within the next four years, but Moscow is anxious to avoid the impression that its army is being forced to leave.

The Soviet Union wants to be seen to be delivering Germany into full sovereignty of its own accord in order to quell complaints from Kremlin conservatives that President Gorbachev has too easily relinquished the strategic spoils of the second world war. Agreement on the internal aspects of unity was signed last week.

Moscow has requested extensive aid to provide badly needed housing for the returning troops but Bonn appears to be unwilling to match the extent of the Soviet request for funds.

● Unification ceremony: Mr Gorbachev will travel to Berlin for next month's unification ceremonies. East German radio reported yesterday. In a report from Moscow, it said that Mr Gorbachev hopes to shake President Bush's hand at the Brandenburg Gate. (AP)

International miners block Scargill money

Continued from page 1

long telephone conversation last night and you can put two and two together from that."

However, Henry Richardson, the Nottinghamshire president of the NUM and a supporter of Mr Scargill, said the visit to France would definitely go ahead. "There is no doubt in my mind that we can establish that the money belongs to the NUM. Mr Simon will stand his ground, but I believe we will resolve the issue at the end

of the day." The planned visit is highly embarrassing for Mr Scargill who is president of the IMO as well as the NUM, a conflict of interest now concerning the leaders of the NUM. He and Mr Simon would have to sanction the transfer of funds out of the reach of his own union for the last five years, which are now being denied again.

Next week's meeting of the NUM's national executive committee is now expected to point

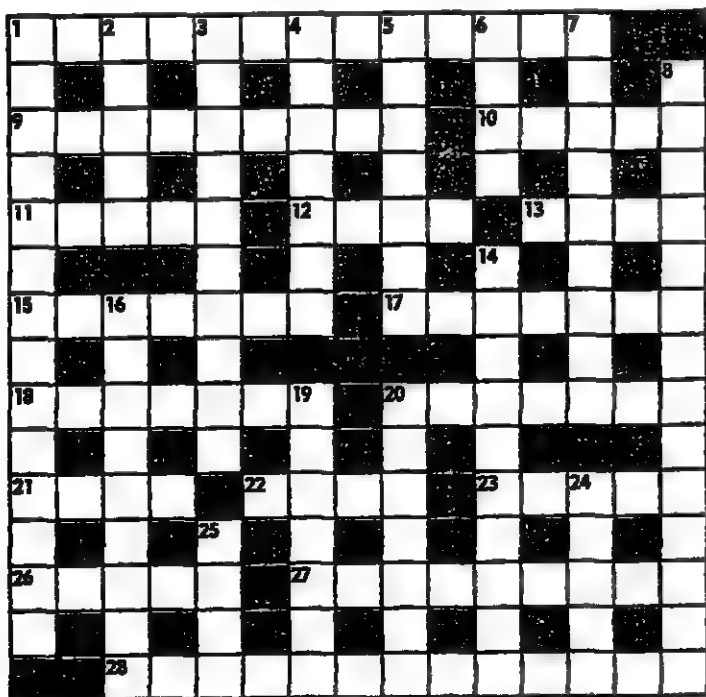
out that Mr Scargill cannot be in charge of both organisations. Mr Rees said: "Arthur Scargill should remember who pays his wages and has got to make up his mind up whether he is president of the NUM or the IMO."

Mr Scargill has always maintained that the Soviet donations were intended for miners internationally, not just the NUM. However, his position was further undermined yesterday by the leaking of two letters from Soviet

union leaders which condemn statements that the £1 million of Soviet money was for the use of the IMO as "baseless lies".

Mikhail Srebny, former president of the Soviet miners, wrote to the National Union of Mineworkers executive to say he was "outraged" that the international miners fund was created in secret from its six million members and was at the disposal of two people for the last five years.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,392



- ACROSS**
- Where to eat on the run? (10,3).
 - In vehicle girl goes back to the map (9).
 - Profound attribute of Neptune's kingdom (5).
 - Power of aircraft gaining height (5).
 - Played a waiting game with the Queen? (4).
 - Effect of a short leg is not vital (4).
 - Uses trick to break up international organization (7).
 - Flat cake in ketchup at Indian take-away (7).
 - Obscure, like a consultancy of old (7).
 - Dog-eat-dog? (4,3).
 - A box, perhaps, for an old stager (4).
 - "Dreaming when Left Hand was in the Sky" (Fitzgerald) (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,391

ACROSS
1. Canteen
2. Map
3. Abyss
4. Altitude
5. Queen's
6. Leg
7. Disband
8. Curry
9. Obscure
10. Dog-eat-dog
11. Box
12. Dreaming

- DOWN**
- Flower blown by the wind (5).
 - Both sides at Lons switch positions (2,3).
 - In Miller one perhaps found something soothing (9).
 - Chef comes into a lot of money - that's what takes the biscuit in America! (7,6).
 - Plug is out when blowing one's own trumpet (14).
 - Shoot from plane for instance (5).
 - The poor sap is upset by sign of omission (10).
 - It could be a hanging matter for the Church (7).
 - Wandering Dominican drops in before conversion (7).
 - Rules not meant to be broken (4).
 - Salesman exhibits surrounded with carpet (9).
 - Focal point in town for informers? (8,6).
 - Upstart in City game about as award (10).
 - Debagged successfully? (6,3).
 - Country house for talk and Adam's ale abroad (7).
 - Agreeable to have a bit of success (7).
 - European has to admit wanting a king (5).
 - Service, a climber, is a long way out (4).

Concise crossword, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- JUPPY**
a. A Japanese yuppy
b. The sailing cod
c. A junk-food dealer
- DVANDVA**
a. A snow-covered mountain pass
b. A compound word
c. A Norse marriage
- RUILLON**
a. A beggarly knave
b. A rawhide shoe
c. A groove for a wheel
- LAMBOYS**
a. Bull's boys
b. A steel kilt
c. Flambeaux

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0636 401 followed by the appropriate code.

LONDON & SE traffic, roadworks
C. London (within M & S Circles) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 722
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford 723
M-ways/roads Dartford-T 428 734
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks
National motorways 737
West Country 738
Wales 739
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most of the Britain will have both sunshine and heavy showers. Southern, central and eastern England will have a bright start and some sunshine, but scattered showers will develop during the morning and may become heavy later. Western and northern England, Wales and Northern Ireland will be sunny with strong winds and heavy showers. Heavy showers in Scotland will be prolonged in the north and west. A cool day everywhere. Outlook: mostly dry and less windy.

ABROAD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Algeria	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Algiers	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10
Amman	20	10	10

AROUND BRITAIN

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10
London	15	10	10

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 16 to 18, min 10 (10:00). Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 10 to 15 mm. Sun: 10 to 15 min. Moon: 10 to 15 min. Cloud: 10 to 15%.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

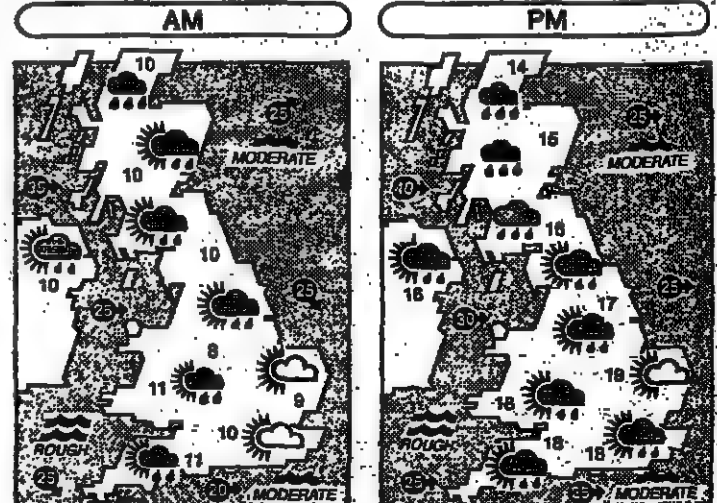
Today: Highest day temp: Poole, Dorset, 21°C (70°F). Lowest day temp: Garmouth, 14°C (57°F). Highest night temp: Garmouth, 14°C (57°F). Lowest night temp: Garmouth, 14°C (57°F).

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 16 to 18, min 10 (10:00). Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 10 to 15 mm. Sun: 10 to 15 min. Moon: 10 to 15 min. Cloud: 10 to 15%.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 16 to 18, min 10 (10:00). Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 10 to 15 mm. Sun: 10 to 15 min. Moon: 10 to 15 min. Cloud: 10 to 15%.



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 7:37 pm to 6:22 am
Belfast 7:46 pm to 6:32 am
Manchester 7:16 pm to 6:22 am
Perthshire 7:55 pm to 6:43 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: a. cloud; b. rain; c. sun.

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Belfast	15	10	10
Birmingham	18	10	10
Blackpool	18	10	10
Bristol	18	10	10
Cardiff	17	10	10
Edinburgh	14	10	10
Glasgow	15	10	10

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be lifted at the following times today: 1.25pm, 12.45pm and 4.30pm.

HIGH TIDES

City	AM	PM	HT	PT	HT	PT
London	2:27	4:35	10.62	11.32	10.62	11.32
London	2:27	4:35	10.62	11.32	10.62	11.32
London	2:27	4:35	10.62	11.32	10.62	11.32
London	2:27	4:35	10.62	11.32	10.62	11.32

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office.

THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1990. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, Victoria Street, London E1 6JL. Telephone 020 7556 2000 and 020 7556 2001. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

BUSINESS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6 1990

Executive Editor
David Brewerton● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-31
● LAW 28
● DEGREE COURSE VACANCIES 33
● DEGREE RESULTS 33
● SPORT 34-38Goodman
loan went
to Irish
farmer

THE £25 million (£22.6 million) loan, from the Irish section of Mercantile Credit to an offshoot of Goodman Industries, the stricken Irish meat group, which is currently the subject of court proceedings in Cyprus, was, in turn, lent to Joe Kenny, a Tipperary farmer, it emerged yesterday.

Mr Kenny, hitherto virtually unknown in Irish business circles, has become a major player on the Dublin property market in recent months. He is also a defendant in the case being brought by the Irish branch of Mercantile Credit in an effort to recover a disputed £27 million.

Last March ABP, a Goodman subsidiary, borrowed £25 million from Mercantile Credit. This loan was to have been supported by a £25 million deposit from a third party which never materialised. ABP, in turn, lent the money to Mr Kenny.

After several transactions, £20 million was deposited in the Bank of Cyprus. ABP and Mr Kenny are plaintiffs in a case due to be heard in the Cyprus courts this month in an effort to claim the money. ABP was forced to repay the loan to Mercantile in January when it was unable to recover the money.

The Bank of Cyprus yesterday stated it was not withdrawing the money from ABP, but that the funds had been frozen by a preliminary court action in the court of Paphos pending the outcome of the case.

Eurotunnel's
banks confident

The principal bankers to Eurotunnel are growing confident they can salvage the cross-channel operator's £2.5 billion fund-raising scheme after a frantic round of diplomacy among its 210 bankers in the last three weeks.

Eurotunnel's four agent banks, National Westminster, Midland, Credit Lyonnais and Banque Nationale de Paris, met privately in London yesterday to discuss the progress of their £2 billion debt syndication.

Comment, page 27

THE ROUND

US dollar (+0.0225)
W German mark
2.9698 (-0.0013)
Exchange index
94.7 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1672.2 (+1.3)
FT-SE 100
2152.2 (+4.2)
New York Dow Jones
2620.64 (+7.17)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
24078.34 (-829.30)
Closing Prices ... Page 31
Major indices and
major changes Page 26

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3 month Interbank 14 1/2%
3 month sterling bill 14 1/2%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds Rate 7 3/4%
3 month Treasury Bill 7 3/8%
30 year bonds 9 1/2-9 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£ \$1.8855
£ DM 1.9625
£ Sfr 2.4649
£ FF 16.5524
£ Yen 141.55
£ Index 94.7
ECU 1.636478
£ ECU 1.43515

GOLD

London: Fixing
AM \$384.60 pm \$383.30
close \$386.75-387.25 (25073-
204.25)
New York
Comex \$387.00-387.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) ... \$29.80 bbl (\$28.80)
Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.24	2.24
Austria Sfr	21.70	20.40
Belgium Fr	66.00	66.00
Canada \$	1.16	1.16
Denmark Kr	7.46	7.46
Finland Mk	7.31	6.75
France Fr	6.55	6.55
Germany DM	2.00	2.00
Greece Dr	200.00	200.00
Hong Kong \$	1.06	1.06
Italy Lira	2.175.00	2.175.00
Japan Yen	147.5	147.5
Netherlands Gld	3.75	3.75
Norway Kr	11.88	11.28
Portugal Esc	200.00	200.00
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	11.24	10.72
Switzerland Fr	2.00	2.00
Turkey Lira	500.00	485.00
USA \$	1.98	1.98
Yugoslavia Din	22.5	19.25

Notes for small denomination bank only
Rates for bank of London Bank PLC. Different
rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 128.7 (June)

IEA forecasts
oil shortages
by November

By MARTIN BARROW

THE International Energy Agency yesterday warned consumers of regional shortages in oil supplies by November if the embargo on Iraq and Kuwait remains in place.

The IEA, which represents leading oil consumers, said a combination of stock drawdowns and increased production by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries would ensure continuity of supply to the end of October.

But the Paris-based agency gave a warning that rising demand in the fourth quarter as winter approaches would result in regional supply problems.

The warning came as oil prices rose to \$30 a barrel for the first time since Opec agreed to increase output in an effort to compensate for the 4.5 million barrels a day lost through the blockade of Iraq and Kuwait. In London October Brent traded at \$29.55, up 70 cents, after touching \$30.

The rise in the oil price, and continued speculation that Opec is about to enter the European exchange rate mechanism, sent the pound sharply higher in early trading. At one point, it had gained 2.3 cents against the dollar and a pips against the mark. By the close in London, sterling was still up 2 cents to \$1.8945 but only marginally higher against the mark.

The IEA, which represents

18 industrialised nations, estimated the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development inventories on land cover 98 days of forward consumption, two days up on last year.

However, the supply outlook for the final two months of the year remains uncertain. "The market could become increasingly tighter during the winter months," said the IEA in its oil market report for August. "This will come at a time when demand is seasonally highest and as the ability for significant commercial stockdraw gradually diminishes. Severe cold weather and extended refinery operations by industry at full capacity could also further increase market tightness," it said.

In London energy analysts gave a warning that despite the IEA's assurance of continuity of supplies over the next six weeks, oil prices are likely to continue their steep climb even if war does not break out.

Mehdi Varzi, oil analyst of Kleinwort Benson Securities, said: "The IEA is the opposite of Opec - it is the consumers' cartel and its aim is to steady consumers' nerves." He said that oil stocks are not high enough to prevent further increases in the price of crude, and questioned Opec's ability to maintain output at higher levels over an extended period.

Oil analysts estimate that of the 98 days of forward supply

calculated by the IEA, about 29 days comprises government stocks which are unlikely to be used until supply difficulties become extreme.

Commercial stocks extend to about 69 days but a substantial proportion, possibly one third, is required to keep downstream operations ticking over. Mr Varzi said that as a result of the embargo, year-end commercial stocks would fall below 64 days of supply, the lowest since the early Seventies.

Stocks of petroleum products are much lower. World gasoline stocks are estimated at between 31 and 32 days, falling to less than 15 days in some less developed nations. The fear is that countries with lower stocks will bid up prices, putting further pressure on refineries which already working at almost full capacity.

The IEA expects OECD oil consumption to decline by 1 per cent during the fourth quarter of 1990 to 38.9 million barrels a day (bpd), compared with 38.4 million bpd for the comparable period in 1989. But a 3.5 per cent increase during the third quarter to 37.8 million bpd suggests an early start to stock building before winter in the northern hemisphere.

Mr Varzi, who had anticipated a stockbuild of 300,000 bpd during the third quarter, now forecasts a draw of 800,000 bpd, rising to 1.8 million bpd in the fourth quarter.

BAT dips below £600m

STEPHEN MARKESON



No smoke without a smile: Patrick Sheehy announces BAT results yesterday

BAT Industries, whose tobacco interests stretch into China and which is making strong headway in the East German market, has quoted Russia for a 4 billion cigarette contract, says Patrick Sheehy, the chairman (Colin Campbell writes).

"But we will only deal if we are paid in real money, or in tradeable goods," he said in

announcing interim profits for the six months to June 30. Pre-tax profits fell from £668 million to £592 million on a turnover up from £8.27 billion to £9.38 billion. There is a second interim dividend of 10.7p, payable January 3, making a 20.7p total so far.

The group has made a final provision of £26 million in relation to Hovland's bid at-

tempts last year. However, tobacco interests showed trading profits 18.9 per cent ahead at £472 million.

BAT has given warning that the group's underlying performance may not be fully reflected this year because of the influence of world stock markets and exchange rates.

Tempos, page 27

Cable 'poses threat to ITV'

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CABLE will pose "a realistic threat" to the advertising revenue of independent television (ITV) companies by the end of 1993 when one in ten British homes will be connected, according to a study by Citicorp Investment Bank.

The study found that Thames, London Weekend Television, Granada and Anglia were most likely to bear the brunt.

By the year 2000, 90 per cent of all homes will be

passed by cable, with 45 per cent not only subscribing to cable television but also opting to watch non-terrestrial channels at peak time, the study predicts.

By 1995, ITV's share of national advertising revenue will have dropped from 77 per cent to 62 per cent and its share of viewing in homes with either cable or satellite will have fallen to just 20 per cent.

But ITV revenue will not show a real reverse until the year 2000.

The cost of advertising on cable or satellite channels will

be "demonstrably lower" than on ITV and Channel 4. Already, homes with cable or satellite are already spending 40 per cent of viewing time watching non-terrestrial channels, making advertisers' ratings targets harder to achieve.

Citicorp expects Sky and BSB, the satellite broadcasters, to "co-exist" with Sky breaking even by late 1992 and BSB at the end of 1994.

The study also predicts telephony will increase cable operators' revenue by 10 per cent, with Mercury benefiting "significantly".

Vacances
creditors
payment
unlikely

By JON ASHWORTH

HUNDREDS of holiday-makers who booked holidays in France through Vacances, the specialist tour operator that collapsed last month, will see nothing for their money.

Liquidators have been puzzling over how a company with debts of £500,000 was able to continue trading for as long as it did, without as much as a hint that anything was amiss.

Dennis Cross, of KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, who was appointed provisional liquidator at a meeting in Cambridge yesterday, told creditors he was unable to explain how the losses had built up. "Since I can only account for about £100,000 out of a deficiency of more than £500,000, I will be investigating the discrepancy," he said.

Mr Cross said it was possible that Vacances should have declared itself in default some months ago, before the summer rush. He said the most recent set of quarterly results showed no indication of the mounting debts.

"The statement of affairs shows that unsecured creditors are not going to get any money," he added. The company showed a pre-tax profit of £256,000 in the year to September 1989 on turnover of £741,000.

Ian Chapple, the Vacances director, said increasing competition from large tour operators had contributed to the collapse. High interest rates had taken their toll, and a "totally unforeseen" slump in the value of the pound had led to debts of £150,000.

Mr Chapple said the decision to cease trading was taken after Midland Bank, which is owed £54,303, restricted its line of credit to the company. He said negotiations with 31, the venture capital group, and other finance houses had also fallen through.

More than 300 holiday-makers paid between £100 and £2,500 for a break in gites or cottages in France and Belgium. They and other unsecured creditors, including the gite owners who are thought to be owed £182,000, will see nothing for their money. The few profitable assets include the lists of customer names, which are thought to be worth at least £29,000, and will go some way towards paying preferential creditors. Holidaymakers are owed at least £150,000.

Vacances was founded in 1980 by Mr Chapple and his wife, Margaret. They separated in 1987, and Mrs Chapple resigned as a director this February.

Storm claims sweep Sun
Alliance to £119m loss

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

HALF a million claims from the hurricanes which hit Britain last winter have swept Sun Alliance, Britain's largest home insurer, in to a £119 million loss in the first half of the year, down from an interim pre-tax profit of £191 million last time.

The group suffered the most among the big insurers since it has stuck to a policy of only taking limited reinsurance in the Lloyd's market, and meeting most claims itself.

The claims cost Sun Alliance £320 million, or £226 million after reinsurance. De-

spite this, the group is still raising its dividend 11 per cent to 5p a share.

The storms, and persistent problems in America, gave Britain's five composite insurers and Eagle Star, BAT Industries' insurance subsidiary, an underwriting loss of almost £1.5 billion in the first half of the year, more than four times higher than last year.

Arthur Hayes, the general manager, defended the company's non-reinsurance policy despite the losses.

He said: "Reinsurance is

only a flattening out exercise. We recognise our financial strength, and only buy reinsurance against genuine catastrophes."

Sun Alliance is the best capitalised of the insurers. But its reserves took a battering from the rush of claims, falling 13 per cent from their December high to £2.57 billion. However, they are still higher than a year ago.

In contrast to the losses in Britain, Sun Alliance performed better than its competitors in America and produced a pre-tax profit there.

Wimpey plunges
72% at half-time

By MATTHEW BOND

SHARES in George Wimpey, the housebuilding and construction group, dropped 72p to 175p, as Sir Clifford Chetwood, the chairman, announced a 72 per cent fall in interim pre-tax profits from £45.2 million to £12.6 million.

Sir Clifford said the fall was due to a marked slowdown in the British housebuilding business. He said: "There can be no doubt about the testing times we are going through. It is without doubt the worst I have seen in a lifetime in the industry."

Having sold 2,718 homes in the six months to June, Sir Clifford said Wimpey was likely to complete 6,300 sales in 1990, 800 less than in 1989 when group pre-tax profits were £134 million. Interest

charges rose by almost 40 per cent to £20.9 million, boosted by a £5.4 million payment on the company's biggest property development, the £200 million City office block on Little Britain which is pre-let to lawyer Clifford Chance.

Total borrowings at the halfway stage were £429 million, with £34 million of the £47 million increase over year-end levels accounted for by the Little Britain project.

Contracting was hit by the fall in commercial property developments and lack of capital investment by industry.

Wimpey is paying an unchanged interim dividend of 4p a share.

Cement profits dip
30% at Blue Circle

By MICHAEL TATE, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

BRITAIN'S biggest cement manufacturer, Blue Circle Industries, reports a 30 per cent slump in cement profits in the first half of 1990, reflecting the slowdown in the UK and North American construction industries.

The fall was partly offset by improved profits from the group's overseas operations, and home products, where the acquisition of the Myson heating business lifted profits from £16.4 million to £22.1 million.

As a result group pre-tax profits ran out at £93 million against £100.3 million last time. But Sir Peter Walters, newly installed as Blue Circle chairman, said that trading conditions for the group's UK and US businesses were likely to be "further depressed" in

the second half.

However, he declared an increased interim dividend of 3.75p a share, against 3.5p last time.

Blue Circle's balance sheet remains in good shape, with gearing at 34.1 per cent as of June 30.

Sir Peter said that cement industry demand had fallen by more than 10 per cent in the first half, but that Blue Circle had seen a 14.1 per cent reduction. "In the first quarter market share was lost on pricing, but during the second quarter much of this has been regained," he said.

On the stock market Blue Circle share improved 5p to 205p.

Tempos, page 27

Cider sales rosy in the summer

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

MORE cider was drunk by Britons than ever before in the 12 months to the end of June. The hot summer of 1989 and this year's radiant May helped drive sales up almost 13 per cent compared with the previous 12-month period.

The industry's performance is recorded by the National Association of Cider Makers in *The Cider Survey*, a bi-annual review of the market published by Showers.

The value of cider sales is thought to be about £600 million - in the off-licence sector it accounts for approaching 3 per cent of alcoholic drink sales against the 25 per cent market share of beer and table and sparkling wine.

Cider's boost is good news especially for Bulmers, with its Strongbow, Woodpecker and Max brands, and Allied Lyons whose Showers labels include Gysmer's, K and Copperhead. The market is dominated by these two and

the Taunton Cider Company, which belongs to a consortium of brewers including Bass, Courage, which is part of Elders and Scottish & Newcastle. Taunton brands include Blackthorn, Diamond White and Autumn Gold. A key player is the independent Merrydown, especially in the take-home market.

The cider boom coincides with a big growth in lager drinking. Beer market statistics are due to be announced shortly by the trade and are expected to show that lager nationally now claims just over half the beer market.

Product development backed by higher promotional spending has also taken cider further away from its early yoked image. Copperhead sells on "urban imagery" while Diamond White and Max are newly developed almost white-looking ciders strong in alcohol content yet appealing to a wide variety of drinkers especially women.

The lift in cider sales has come as a new wave of competition has emerged in

the wake of changes brought in following the monopoly investigation of beer supply. Since May, tenants of pubs owned by the big brewers have been able to choose any supplier for cider, precipitating a scramble among the cider makers to seize a bigger share of the on-trade.

According to the survey, Bulmers has topped Taunton as top supplier to the on-trade, which is mainly the pubs. The Bulmers share of this market to June has risen to 41.2 per cent from 39.2 the year before. Taunton, which had been at 40.6 per cent share, has come back to 40.2 per cent.

Showers has also dropped back marginally from 14.8 per cent the year before to 14.4 per cent. However, in the take-home market Bulmers at 29.5 per cent and Showers at 14.9 per cent have both fallen back from their 1989 levels as Taunton (12.6 per cent) and Merrydown (5.3 per cent) strengthened their positions.

EXECUTION-ONLY STOCKBROKING

Why pay over £50 commission for a £20,000 deal?

Deal Size	Execution-Only Commission	Fidelity Commission
£5,000	£12	£50
£10,000	£16	£50
£15,000	£16	£50
£20,000	£17	£50

Deals over £20,000 Fidelity commissions £50+0.05%

*Based on a Fidelity survey of 6 commission charges by 14 firms offering similar execution only service as of January 1990.

You are a stockmarket investor who takes his own decisions and does not seek advice. But are you paying more in commissions than you really need?

Fidelity Share Service could substantially reduce the commission you are paying on execution-only transactions. For all deals between £3,900 and £20,000, our commission charge is just £50. (There's a once-only joining fee of £25 and minimum commission of £25.) And, as you can see, deals above this continue to deliver significant commission savings.

But that is only part of the story. With Fidelity you also get the level of service you would expect from a stockbroking company associated with one of the world's major investment houses. A service which delivers efficient administration and prompt settlement with direct access to our dealers via our callfree telephone service.

To receive our brochure and application form, complete the coupon below or call one of our dealers on callfree (800) 800 700.

Member of The International Stock Exchange, Member of The Securities Association

Available in 1 UK based offices only

To Fidelity Portfolio Services Limited, FREEPOST, London EC3B 4UD

Full Name Mr Mrs Miss

Address

Postcode

Tel. No. () daytime evening (please tick)

(so that we may call you to answer any questions you may have)

I deal approximately times a year

Ref Code T277

Fidelity Investments

Share Service

Hillsdown interim recovers to £82.6m

By JOHN BELL, CITY EDITOR

HILLSDOWN Holdings, the food group, reports sharply higher half-time profits thanks to a spectacular recovery in its poultry and eggs division, which was badly hit last time by the salmonella scare and the Edwina Currie affair.

In the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits surged to £82.6 million (£67.6 million). Operating profits from poultry provided most of the boost, climbing from £3.2 million to £25.8 million on turnover 13 per cent higher at £365 million.

Harry Solomon, the chairman, said that the forecast recovery in the division has taken place against a background of growing confidence in growth prospects for white meat activities. Fresh meat, however, was hit by fears over bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

Markets had been difficult for non-food activities such as house building, office furniture and property, said Mr Solomon. But Fairview, Hillsdown's house building division, held up well, selling more units than in the comparable period of 1989. Building land had been bought at competitive prices.

Property operations were cut back. This would lead to lower profits in the full year, 1990.

although exposure to a difficult market would be reduced, said Mr Solomon.

The division reported sharply lower interim operating profits of £14.1 million (£26.8 million). The problems of Lowndes Queensway and tough trading in markets for office furniture held back the furniture division, which made profits of £8.5 million (£8.8 million).

Food, which has become Hillsdown's largest activity, accounting for 80 per cent of sales, was boosted by the inclusion of Premier Brands for the first time.

The merger of Maple Leaf Mills with CP gave Hillsdown 56 per cent of the enlarged group, now Canada's largest quoted food group. Food processing and distribution produced profits of £44.3 million (£30.1 million), while trading profits from fresh meat and bacon edged ahead to £11.1 million (£10.8 million).

There is an interim dividend of 2p per share, a rise of 11 per cent. Although pre-tax profits climbed 22 per cent, earnings per share grew by just 2.6 per cent to 11.92p due to the shares issued to finance the Premier Brands purchase. Hillsdown shares rose 6p to 254p.

T&N drives up to £46m

By MATTHEW BOND

INTERIM pre-tax profits at T&N, the automotive components and engineering group, rose by 15 per cent to £46.1 million in the first six months of this year. Colin Hope, the chairman, said he was pleased with the group's overall performance, despite hiccups in individual markets.

He said: "If you have a properly balanced spread of customers and countries, it is possible, even in these difficult times, to maintain a reasonable performance."

Sales of automotive components in Britain were hit by the strike at Ford and by reduced demand from Rover Group. But strong increases in sales in France and in America compensated for these reductions. Turnover for the automotive division in the first half was £389 million, more than 62 per cent of the group total. The interim dividend was increased to 3.6p (3.5p) a share.

In March, the company spent £120 million on buying JP Industries, an American automotive components company. Mr Hope said he was confident that JP would not be affected by a slowdown in



Colin Hope: pleased with overall performance

the American economy. "In the first half of the year, JP performed better than the sector. We take the view that that out-performance will continue." He said that when the

Williams falls by 15% at half way

By MARTIN BARROW

FIRST-HALF pre-tax profits fell 15 per cent to £60.6 million at Williams Holdings, the industrial conglomerate, which gave a warning yesterday that a recovery was unlikely until interest rates were reduced.

Mr Nigel Rudd, the chairman, said: "The group continues to experience difficulty in its British consumer and building products businesses. These will not show a significant improvement until interest rates are reduced and a more optimistic economic climate prevails. An improvement in these conditions does not appear likely in the current year."

Pre-tax profits for the six months to the end of June are before exceptional costs of £3.35 million, being reorganisation expenses. An extraordinary profit of £79.14 million arose from the sale of Crown points in May.

Fully-diluted earnings, a share, excluding exceptional costs, fell from 12.5p to 10.8p but the interim dividend is increased from 4.5p to 4.75p.

Operating profits from continuing businesses declined by 4 per cent to £59.8 million on a turnover almost unchanged at £385 million.

The consumer and building products division suffered an 18 per cent fall in trading profits to £25.8 million on turnover just £8 million higher at £213 million. Industrial and military products earned £34 million, against £31 million, on sales £12 million down at £172 million.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Same Croda payout as profit tops £17m

CRODA International, the specialty chemicals group, is maintaining the interim dividend at 4.1p a share in anticipation of uncertain trading conditions during the second half of the year. Taxable profits for the first half of 1990 increased by 4 per cent to £17.2 million.

Michael Valentine, chairman, said that although he was "cautiously optimistic" about the outlook for the rest of 1990, it was prudent to pay an unchanged dividend to reflect "unusually unsettled circumstances in both domestic and international markets". He added that directors would consider an increase in the dividend when the year's results were known and, it was hoped, the general outlook was clearer. A higher tax charge, due to a lower level of advance corporation tax relief, resulted in unchanged earnings at 8.9p a share.

Poulenc gives profit warning

RHÔNE-Poulenc, the French state-owned chemical group, reported a slump in first half net profit and said the deteriorating economic situation could weigh more significantly on second half operating profits. Rhône-Poulenc earlier announced attributable net profit of £32.18 billion in the first half of 1990, against £32.5 billion in the same 1989 half.

Sales record for MIM

MIM Holdings, the Australian mining group, earned a net profit of A\$275 million (£114.10 million) in the year ended July 1, compared with a net profit of A\$240.1 million previously, and had a record sales revenue of A\$1.9 billion, Sir Bruce Watson, chairman, said yesterday. The final is raised to 8 cents (7 cents) a share, making 12 cents (10 cents).

Allied profits fall

RIISING costs and high interest rates cut interim pre-tax profits at Allied Partnership, the building services and plant hire company, by 25 per cent from £3.2 million to £2.4 million. Maryn Rose, chairman, said profits in the previous corresponding period had been inflated by property sales. Turnover in the six months to June 30 dropped from £63.5 million to £57.9 million. The dividend was steady at 1p. Mr Rose said Allied was reducing overall operating costs, but the integration of United Forktrucks was taking longer than expected.

Tesco plans £50m venture

TESCO, the supermarket group, is to develop a 90-acre site at Nantgarw, Mid-Glamorgan, South Wales, in a joint venture with the Welsh Development Agency. The development will include more than 1 million sq ft of industrial and commercial premises, worth up to £50 million when complete, and provide up to 3,000 jobs over the next five years.

Two directors for Gateway

GEOFF Cooper has been appointed to the main board of Gateway Foodmarkets as corporate finance director. He joins the company next Monday. Mr Cooper is at present a director of Spicers Consulting Group. Mike Russell joins the trading board of Gateway as finance director. Mr Russell, who is currently with Asda, will join the company from October 1.

Peter Black rises 7%

PETER Black Holdings, a supplier of consumer goods to Marks and Spencers, raised taxable profits by 7 per cent to £10.3 million in the year to June 2 on turnover up 3 per cent to £142.8 million. A final dividend of 2.07p makes 2.84p, up 18 per cent, payable from earnings of 13.35p a share (13.03p).

The results include a seven-month contribution from English Grams, pharmaceuticals and health remedies manufacturer, acquired in October for £12.8 million. Interest charges rose from £2.27 million to £3.29 million.

Trading tough for Wiggins

By COLIN CAMPBELL

WIGGINS Teape Appleton, demerged from BAT earlier this year and in its first report since the June 1 stock exchange quotation, reported a 9.1 per cent dip in interim pre-tax profits to £85.9 million for the six months ended June 30.

Stephen Wallis, chairman, says trading conditions in the pulp and paper industry were difficult in the half year, but interim turnover rose from £801.7 million to £836.1 million.

An interim dividend of 3.3p is in line with the company's forecast made at the time of listing.

The group says the outlook in Europe is for continued downward pressure on pulp prices, which will affect the group's pulp businesses, and the market for paper products is likely to remain extremely competitive. In North America, demand for carbonless products is strong and added capacity is planned.

Wiggins Teape yesterday announced a \$60 million deal to buy the Bote Cascade paper mill in Washington State, which has a capacity of 100,000 tons and employs 450 people.

The deal will establish a west coast presence for the group, and provide access to markets in the Far East and Australia, Mr Wallis said.

Amec falls to £28.6m at half time

By ANGELA MACKAY

AMEC, the construction and engineering group, suffered a 25 per cent fall in pre-tax profits from £38 million to £28.6 million in the six months to June after an £8.5 million loss in its housing and property division.

However, the company is optimistic, that construction and engineering activities will continue to perform strongly in the second half and lifted the interim dividend by 7 per cent to 3.875p.

Construction and engineering turnover was 20 per cent higher in the period while profits in the division improved by 50 per cent. Overall turnover climbed from £922 million to £1.03 billion.

Analysts at Smith New Court, the broker, said the company was geared at 15 per cent at the half-year and by the end of the year, after meeting development commitments, this will rise to 25 per cent. SNC is forecasting a full year pre-tax profit of about £77 million compared with £91 million, and maintained margins.

Alan Cockshaw, the chairman, said order books are strong with continued improvement in overseas opportunities. The company's medium-term target is to derive 50 per cent of profits from outside Britain.

COMPANY BRIEFS

QUICKS GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.6m (£1.9m)
EPS: 7.2p (8.3p)
Div: 2p (2p)

DONELON TYSON (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.1m (£1m)
EPS: 2.06p (2.41p)
Div: Nil (nil)

SELECTV (Fin)
Pre-tax: £0.4m loss
EPS: 0.69p loss (0.31p)
Div: Nil (nil)

WSP HOLDINGS (Int)
Pre-tax: £3.5m (£2.2m)
EPS: 4.5p (4.1p)
Div: 1.1p (0.9p)

NESTOR-BNA (Int)
Pre-tax: £2.5m (£2.2m)
EPS: 4.40p (3.32p)
Div: 1.16p (1.0p)

STAT-PLUS (Int)
Pre-tax: £2.9m (£2.2m)
EPS: 8.7p (8.4p)
Div: 2.75p (1.75p)

HERITAGE (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.7m loss
EPS: 16.74p loss (11.25p)
Div: 1.25p (1.25p)

HERRING SON (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.6m (£1.8m)
EPS: 9.71p (10.25p)
Div: 3.0p (2.5p)

New car sales fell 5 per cent during half year, with second quarter becoming more difficult. Group is watching costs carefully.

A final dividend at least matching last year's 0.75p is expected. Group says demand has slowed and orders are weaker.

Loss compares with a profit of £158,161 last time. Company says this level of losses will not be repeated.

Company expects benefits from recently-acquired Parsons Brown and Donald Rudd, both in the second half and more significantly in 1991.

Trading conditions remain difficult but company is confident of an advance in the second half.

Company gives a warning, that the general economic slowdown could affect its results.

Loss compares with profit of £244,000 last time. Company will stop expanding by acquisition and return to organic growth.

Company says there are signs that agency activity has reached a nadir. The company looks forward to next year with confidence.

DIVIDENDS UP AN EFFECTIVE 20 PER CENT

SIX MONTHS RESULTS

£1=£1.67 for 1990 (£1.64 for 1989)

PROFIT BEFORE TAX

Six months to June 1989 1990 Change

£668m £592m -11%

INTERIM DIVIDENDS PER SHARE - ACTUAL

19.60p 20.70p +6%

- PROFORMA*

17.25p 20.70p +20%

(The 1989 comparative figures have been restated at average exchange rates, following a change in accounting policy.)

- Encouraging overall business growth in difficult climate.
- Tobacco: trading profit up 19 per cent with continuing export success.
- Financial services: strong performance from Farmers, Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star Life offset by disappointing first half for Eagle Star's general business.
- "I am pleased with the growth trends in both our tobacco and financial services activities . . . the underlying performance may not be fully reflected in our reported results for 1990, subject as they are to world stock markets and exchange rates." Patrick Sheehy, Chairman.
- Second interim dividend of 10.70p, making a total of 20.70p, an increase of 6 per cent.

*On a proforma basis, excluding dividends attributable to the demerged companies, total interim dividends are effectively up 20 per cent.



BAT INDUSTRIES

The full interim report is being posted to shareholders and copies are available from the Company Secretary, B.A.T. Industries p.l.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NL.

لندن ١٩٩٠

Let's stop digging at Eurotunnel

COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Eurotunnel's bankers seem to be softening towards the idea of stumping up their share of the extra £2 billion of loans needed to complete the project. It may yet prove difficult to melt the hearts of the hardest among the 210 lenders, but some appear to be facing up to some of the more absurd aspects of a problem which the banks themselves have helped to create.

The bankers insisted that, at all times, sufficient finance should be in place to complete the entire project. Unless that condition is met, Eurotunnel must cap in hand to seek a waiver in order to gain access to the funds already raised.

Since the huge inflation in construction costs and sharply higher interest rates wrecked the original costs estimates, Eurotunnel has been forced back to its bankers on a number of occasions. Even now, the boring machines, less than two and a half miles away from completing the service tunnel, are chugging towards each other courtesy only of yet another bankers' waiver which expires later this month.

Eurotunnel's construction consortium, Transmanche-Link, has skillfully used the atmosphere generated before each waiver renewal to gain wide publicity for its own disagreements with Eurotunnel over costs.

In fact, the project has already raised sufficient cash and equity to continue building until mid-1992, provided the waivers were to be granted.

But since the £500 million equity portion of the final funding package has already been pre-underwritten, it is the bankers themselves who are the sole obstacle to the fulfilment of their own full-funding condition.

The final irony is that if the banks do fail to put up the resources needed to remove this road-block to Eurotunnel's progress, they put themselves in an even less enviable position.

Under the terms of the original agreements, the banks are obliged to complete the project anyway if Eurotunnel is forced to cease

operation. This would involve the substantial additional expense of finding new project management and almost certainly TML would seize its opportunity to build in some £350 million of costs which are currently disputed by Eurotunnel.

The second alternative is to grant a waiver until the middle of next year when much of the work will have been completed and the construction risk, therefore, will be much diminished. At that point, perhaps with interest rates lower too, other forms of refinancing will be attractive.

The banks have the power to end these artificial "crises" over waivers. They should do so while remembering the old adage,

when you are in a hole it is best to stop digging.

In the market

Spot the odd one out:

1. This autumn's reporting season is off to a dismal start

2. The world is facing the possibility of war in the Gulf

3. Oil prices have doubled and may yet go higher

4. The International Monetary Fund is talking of world recession

5. The London stock market closed higher yesterday

No prizes, not even the popular ERM board game, for picking out the London stock market as the good deed in the naughty world. But is it also a

reliable beacon in the international fog? The answer is probably "yes", and the rewards for getting it right could be substantial.

It is easy to be depressed by the corporate announcements so far this week. Few have contained any joy, many have been downright miserable and the remainder have been cautious. The season is proving that many sector analysts were too confident, too long and that their more remote economist colleagues, taking their "top down" approach, were closer to the mark.

The sector analysts at all securities houses are bringing down their forecasts in the light of experience and are now much closer to the "top down" estimates of zero growth in profits in 1990. Only those wise virgins, the oil analysts, go home at night with much of a smile, but then they have waited a long time for their darlings' day to come.

The direction, if not the distance, of most profit downturns and disappointments is already in the market. There are always exceptions, such as Williams Holdings which yesterday presented its shareholders with their first profits fall, but in the main those companies which are painted the deepest crimson were known to be facing the toughest times. And there are distinct sectoral trends: Wimpey, Blue Circle and Amec, for instance, are all hit by the high interest rates we have seen for most of this year, and nobody could have expected Sun Alliance to have anything nice to say after the winds of the first quarter did their damage.

The market has most of this on board, which is why the gloom can be brushed aside and all eyes fixed on the will-we-won't-we join the ERM game.

The market price/earnings ratio is around ten and there it should be content to stay, unless matters do become significantly worse. Investors, meanwhile, should use their time and their cash to pick up quality stocks on the market's poorer days.

TEMPUS

Tobacco profits filter through the smoke of demerged BAT

BAT has effectively presented its interim report to end-June through a smokescreen, and yet despite a series of minus signs on some of the more important financial data, still manages to secure a vote of confidence from analysts.

It has demerged Wiggins Teape Appleton and Argos. It has switched to average exchange rates. It has had to make higher provisions at Eagle Star, which in turn has withdrawn from property development guarantee business.

BAT shows a 13 per cent rise in group turnover to £9.38 billion, but a 12 per cent fall in continuing group trading profit to £730 million, an 11 per cent decline in pre-tax profit to £592 million, and a 20 per cent fall in net earnings to 20.46p a share.

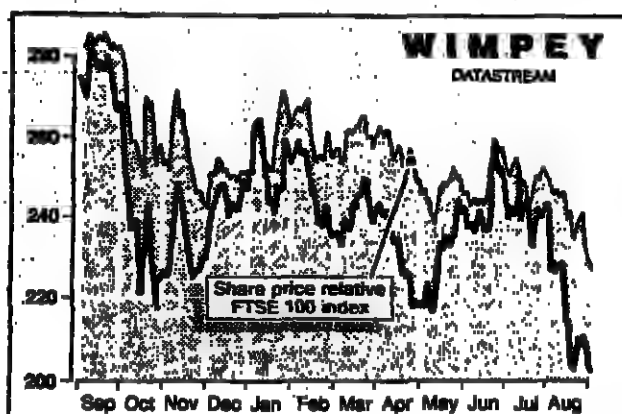
A second interim dividend of 10.7p makes 20.7p so far this year, against an actual 19.6p in last year's first half.

The warning that the underlying performance may not be fully reflected in its reported results for 1990 could turn out to be a sting in the year-end tail. Now BAT has separated from Wiggins Teape Appleton and Argos, a higher tax charge (42.8 per cent for the half year) could be here to stay.

Tobacco operations brought in trading profits of £472 million (£397 million), while financial services contributed £256 million (£412 million). Eagle Star cut its underwriting loss in the second quarter, but the figure grew to a £189 million loss (£46 million loss) in the six months.

Farmers, Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star Life did well, but while Eagle Star has done well from its link with AA Insurance Services, lower world equity markets could hit the Eagle Star in the second half.

BAT's annual profits may



be in the £1.58 billion area, and headed for £1.79 billion in 1991. The annual dividend this year could be 31p. BAT, at £30p, is on a prospective p/e of 9.5 and yield of 7.8 per cent, and on yield grounds the shares have appeal.

Blue Circle

WAS Blue Circle Industries' management wearing its corporate boots this year? It certainly looks as if its competitors caught it on the hop. BCI's cement sales dived 14.4 per cent in the first six months, against an industry contraction of "something in excess of" 10 per cent.

That a fair slice of its market share drove out of the yard when it attempted to pass on a 6 per cent rise in its own costs on March 1 is not disputed, but it is difficult to discover how much had been lost before prices were cut in line with competition.

Most of the business appears to have been reclaimed by the end of the period, but the group appears to be more satisfied than it should be with its "achievement" in holding British cement profits above the 1988 level.

They may be so. But the

stark truth is that these profits, at £37.2 million, were 30 per cent down on 1989 and can only be expected to worsen as the commercial property sector follows housebuilding over the cliff.

Meanwhile, the board is also less than forthcoming about Myson's impact on the home products' results, although it does seem that without the Myson numbers, hearing, which contributed £9 million, against £2.4 million, might well have gone backwards.

The only consolation is a healthy balance sheet, showing gearing at 34.1 per cent and exemplary debt management that has kept the interest charge to £1.4 million.

Even so, BCI now looks like falling well short of £200 million this year, to produce earnings of, say, 20p a share. With no likelihood of an upturn in British construction before mid-1992, next year may be significantly worse. BCI's rating relies heavily on its yield.

George Wimpey

IT IS five months since Sir Clifford Chetwood, the chairman of George Wimpey, gave

a warning that unless interest rates fell, pre-tax profits at the housebuilding and construction group would fall from the £134 million in 1989.

Sir Clifford is certain to be right. Current estimates suggest Britain's second biggest housebuilder will be doing well to achieve half last year's figure. Indeed, analysts' estimates were yesterday sorely tested by the news that Wimpey had made just £12.6 million at half time. An unchanged interim dividend of 4p gave the only comfort.

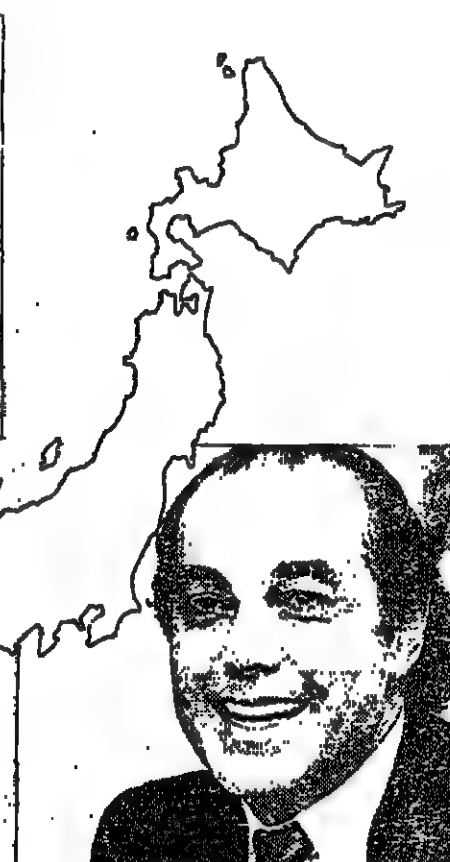
The £32.6 million fall in interim pre-tax profits is, according to Sir Clifford, entirely due to the slump in Wimpey's housebuilding division. The fall in profits suggests operating margins have been devastated. That impression is reinforced by the fact that Wimpey expects to sell 6,300 homes in 1990 (2,718 in the first half) only 11 per cent below 1989's 7,100.

Operating profits of £36.6 million, 43 per cent down on the 1989 figure, were hit by an almost 40 per cent rise in interest to £20.9 million. Of that, £3.4 million relates to interest on Wimpey's Little Britain office development in the City, pre-let to lawyer Clifford Chance, just one of the properties Wimpey will be hoping to sell in the traditionally stronger second half.

Expenditure on Little Britain means Wimpey's gearing is likely to stay at about 60 per cent for the foreseeable future.

On trading alone, Wimpey looks overvalued. A forecast of £70 million gives earnings per share of about 14.5p. But with the land bank and commercial property portfolio underpinning the price, the downside for the shares, off 27p at 175p, looks limited, given Sir Clifford's commitment to higher dividends.

Mighty Miti comes to Europe with a mission to invest



Advance party for the friendly invasion: T Boone Pickens, left, and Asil Nadir

tell his hosts during a visit to Tokyo that while Britain was happy for Japan to invest in Britain, it would be happier still if the door was as open for Britain to reciprocate.

Asil Nadir's Polly Peck, the British conglomerate, became the first foreign company to take over a leading listed Japanese business when it bought Sansui, a Japanese audio equipment manufacturer, last year.

Hikaru Matsunaga, then Miti minister, pounced on the political value of the takeover at a time when Japanese companies were vacuuming up American icons like Columbia Pictures and the Rockefeller Center. "It's a pretty good thing that foreign companies make investments in Japan at a time when Japanese investments abroad are surging. It provides a good example of progress in the openness of Japan's market," he said.

What Mr Matsunaga failed to point out was that it was Sansui's financial headaches that made it so desperate to find a saviour. Even then, Sansui only looked abroad after all its approaches to potential Japanese patrons had drawn shrugs of disinterest.

But Japan is not closed. Although it is still far from open, Asil Nadir, who has bought a quarter of the shares of Koito, a Japanese car parts maker. He barely has his telephone calls returned by Koito managers, let alone gaining the board seats he has been seeking.

Ask the British broking firms who had to wait years for a seat on the Tokyo stock exchange and were only given one after much nagging by Mrs Thatcher.

The barriers may not always be put up by the government, but they are daunting none the less. Japan's still high stock prices, and a system of cross-shareholdings that locks about

70 per cent of all stocks in the hands of stable shareholders and corporate allies, makes it difficult to pick up a large enough block of shares to launch a takeover bid.

The very idea of a takeover bid would make most Japanese businessmen faint. Dizzy land prices make offices in Japan expensive. The need to woo business partners over expensive dinners makes breaking into the market a long, tiring and pricey haul.

It is doubtful that British firms have been waiting for seed capital from Tokyo banks to launch themselves into Japan.

One consolation is that those foreign companies that succeed sometimes do well. Miti says its latest statistics show foreigners' operating margins averaged 6.8 per cent, more than double the 2.8 per cent of Japanese firms.

JOE JOSEPH

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Money men rule the roost

FINANCE directors are the most sought after executive personnel in Britain. So says Goddard Kay Rogers, which claims to be the largest top-level head hunting consultancy in Britain. GKR says accountability qualifications now open the door to salaries of £200,000 and more. "The job of chief executive is being filled more and more by people with a finance background," says David Kay, one of the firm's founders, adding that equity stakes and profit-related bonuses are increasingly necessary to persuade people to move. A typical package for directors on a salary of £100,000 — not uncommon for the chief executive of a medium-sized company — includes a bonus of up to 30 per cent, stock options up to four times salary, health insurance, generous pension and two cars. "An ability to talk to the City has also become important," adds Kay, aged 55, who commutes from his home in Cookham, Berkshire, and enjoys flying his Cessna 182. He is easily able to afford such a lavish life-style — head hunters often command a fee of up to a third of a new recruit's salary and bonus in their first year.

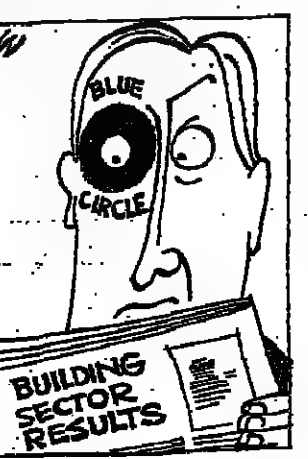
Jumped plane
RED faces and cold feet were noticeable among the City's close-knit ranks of European market-makers this week. For

only four of 12 European specialists who had agreed to make a parachute jump for charity this weekend are honouring their commitment. Andrew Lawrence, a dealer with Thamesway, the soft commission broker owned by BZW, hopes that his absent friends will now be shamed into making a large donation instead. "We should raise at least £1,000," says Lawrence, aged 24, who organised the jump to raise funds for Cancer Research and has consequently been dubbed "the fall guy". Joining him at Cranfield, Bedfordshire, on Sunday will be Nick Dibbs, European market-maker at BZW, and Peter Homan and Luke Jerome, both on the European desk at Smith New Court. "We are hoping Thamesway will double the amount we raise," adds Lawrence.

SO MUCH for signet rings...
with effect from last month, the Law of Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act of 1989 made it legal to exchange signatures by fax. This means it is no longer necessary to "sign, seal and deliver" a legally-binding document, only to sign, witness and deliver it.

No ducks, darling
WOMEN in the City have rounded on female delegates at the TUC conference who complained on Radio 4's Today programme yesterday about men who wolf-whistled and called them "darling", "dear" or "duckie". The behaviour of many male office employees in the Square Mile altered dramatically after they heard the interview, and they began apologizing profusely whenever they inadvertently bestowed such a term of endearment upon a female colleague. But unlike those TUC delegates, a quick straw poll of City women reveals that they actually like it. "It's all about equal salaries and opportunities," says Lynn How, a director of Phillips & Drew Fund Management. "And I want men to know that we actually like being called 'darling' or 'dear', even if most of us aren't too keen on 'duckie'. If I walk past a building site and get wolf whistled, it gives a boost to my day. We still want to be treated like women." Hear, hear.

Bowled out
THE ever-diminishing number of bowler hats to be seen in the Square Mile, will be reduced by yet one more on



Wednesday of next week when Bill Syson retires from the Bank of Scotland after 43 years. "I feel naked without it," says Syson, aged 59, who helped build up a business worth £1 billion as head of corporate banking at The Mound, the Bank of Scotland's Edinburgh head office. A farewell cocktail party is being thrown in his honour at Claridges this evening with the likes of James Gulliver and Sir Philip Harris expected to be among the 250 or so bankers, accountants and solicitors invited. The party will be the third in a week for Syson, described by colleagues as one of the most popular men in corporate banking. Apart from devoting more time to music and art, Syson will now join the board of First International Leasing Corporation, the ship leasing group, and he reveals that he might also take a directorship with an as-yet unnamed oil and energy company in America.

ACCORDING to "identity specialists" Coley Porter Bell, Marks and Spencer is the biggest "saffie" of them all. The research firm asked 100 people which companies had a caring, consumer-friendly image, and which were known for being the opposite. M&S came out top with a 23.5 per cent vote, while B&Q fared worst, in the reverse poll, with a 28.8 per cent verdict. The "nasties" included BT, Woolworth, and McDonald's.

Carroll Leonard

AMEV Half Year Results

For the first six months of 1990 net profit, including that of VSB Group, was up 3.8%. Adjusted for exchange rate fluctuations the increase was 8.7%.

Earnings per share rose by 5.4% to Dfl 2.92, reflecting last year's purchase of AMEV shares by VSB Group from third parties.

Total income was virtually unchanged at Dfl 5.4bn.

At 30 June shareholder funds amounted to Dfl 4.4bn (1989: Dfl 4.2bn).

Barring unforeseen circumstances and exchange rate fluctuations, earnings per share for 1990 are expected to be higher than for 1989.

(£1 = approx. Dfl 3.35)

Copies of the 1990 Half Year Report can be obtained from AMEV (UK) Limited, 1 Houndwell Place, Southampton SO9 1NY Telephone 0703 637411

AMEV Worldwide

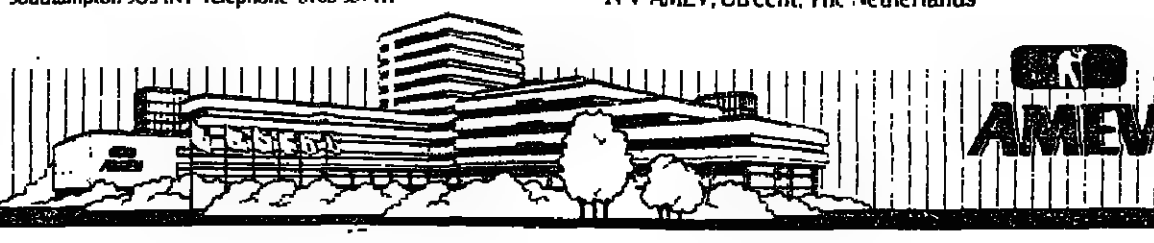
AMEV is an international insurance and financial services group based in the Netherlands. Its shares are quoted on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange and AMEV share options are traded on the European Options Exchange. Total assets are now Dfl 47bn.

AMEV operates in 11 countries: Belgium, Denmark, Eire, France, the Netherlands, Spain, the United Kingdom, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and the USA. Its UK operations are conducted by Gresham Assurance Group and Bishopsgate Insurance Limited.

Future Expansion

AMEV is currently engaged in talks with AG Group, the largest insurance company in Belgium, with the aim of combining operations to form a single group. This would rank among the top 15 insurers in Europe and would play a major role in the developing European market.

N V AMEV, Utrecht, The Netherlands



[illegible][illegible]

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES									
Open	High	Low	Close	Vol	Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
FT-SE 100					Three month ECU				
Sep 30	274.0	274.0	274.0	2538	Sep 30	86.20	86.20	86.20	250
Oct 1	274.0	274.0	274.0	2538	Oct 1	86.20	86.20	86.20	195
Oct 2	274.0	274.0	274.0	2538	Oct 2	86.20	86.20	86.20	195
Three Month Sterling					US Treasury Bond				
Sep 30	85.00	85.00	85.00	17293	Sep 30	85.00	85.00	85.00	100
Oct 1	85.00	85.00	85.00	17293	Oct 1	85.00	85.00	85.00	100
Oct 2	85.00	85.00	85.00	17293	Oct 2	85.00	85.00	85.00	100
Three Month Euro DM					Japanese Govt Bond				
Sep 30	91.48	91.48	91.48	1207	Sep 30	91.48	91.48	91.48	100
Oct 1	91.48	91.48	91.48	1207	Oct 1	91.48	91.48	91.48	100
Oct 2	91.48	91.48	91.48	1207	Oct 2	91.48	91.48	91.48	100
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE					Official prices/Volume previous day				
Copper					Copper				
Sep 30	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250	Sep 30	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250
Oct 1	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250	Oct 1	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250
Oct 2	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250	Oct 2	152.00	152.00	152.00	47250
Zinc					Zinc				
Sep 30	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675	Sep 30	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675
Oct 1	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675	Oct 1	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675
Oct 2	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675	Oct 2	158.00	158.00	158.00	107675
Aluminum					Aluminum				
Sep 30	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350	Sep 30	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350
Oct 1	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350	Oct 1	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350
Oct 2	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350	Oct 2	194.00	194.00	194.00	46350
Nickel					Nickel				
Sep 30	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874	Sep 30	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874
Oct 1	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874	Oct 1	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874
Oct 2	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874	Oct 2	108.00	108.00	108.00	11874
LONDON GRAIN FUTURES					WHEAT CLASS (K) (M)				
Sep 30	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840	Sep 30	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840
Oct 1	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840	Oct 1	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840
Oct 2	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840	Oct 2	111.50	111.50	111.50	11840
LONDON OIL FUTURES					Brent Crude				
Sep 30	26.00	26.00	26.00	10000	Sep 30	26.00	26.00	26.00	10000
Oct 1	26.00	26.00	26.00	10000	Oct 1	26.00	26.00	26.00	10000
Oct 2	26.00	26.00	26.00	10000	Oct 2	26.00	26.00		

[illegible]

Germany	1.7130-1.7145	Denmark	5.9575-5.9535	Italy	1169.5-1170.5
Japan	1.7485-1.7475	W Germany	1.5675-1.5682	Belgium (Com)	32.16-32.21
Switzerland	2.6855-2.6895	Switzerland	1.3030-1.3040	Hong Kong	7.7680-7.7670
Australia	1.2099-1.2113	Netherlands	1.7655-1.7655	Portugal	137.90-138.55
France	1.1532-1.1542	France	5.2490-5.2540	Spain	98.20-98.30
Sweden	5.7510-5.7590	Japan	141.70-141.80	Austria	11.01-11.03

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %	
Currency	7 day 1 month 3 month 6 month
British Pound	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
Can\$	6-7%
Deutschmark	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
French Franc	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
Italian Lira	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
Japanese Yen	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
Swiss Franc	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%
U.S. Dollar	6-7% 6-7% 6-7% 6-7%

GOLD BULLION (Per ounce)
 Open: \$393.75-384.25 Close: \$396.75-397.25
 High: \$396.75-397.25 Low: \$392.50-393.00

GOLD COINS (Per coin, ex VAT)
 Britannia: \$395.00-401.00 (£206.50-211.50)
 Kruggerand: \$398.00-399.00 (£203.00-205.00)
 Mapleleaf (1/2oz): \$399.00-401.00 (£206.50-211.50)

PRECIOUS METALS
 1990: Agreed rates Sep 26, 1990 to Oct 23, 1990:
 Gold: \$1,820 per cent. Schemes II & III: \$1,627 per
 cent. Reference rates Aug 1, 1990 to Aug 31, 1990:
 Scheme IV & V: \$1,021 per cent.
 Platinum per oz: \$463.85 (\$255.15)
 Palladium per oz: \$111.25 (\$58.65)
 Spot Silver: \$4.78-4.80 (\$2,515-2,550)

LONDON FINANCIAL FRUITTES

[illegible][illegible]

LONDON FOX		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE	
COCOA	AMT Futures	Official prices/volume previous day	Random Wt/Wt
Sep 725-718	Jul 825-824	(Z/tonne)	Cash 3 month Vol
Dec 758-757	Exp 847-848		

Nov 599-688	May 835-851	Zinc Spec H*	1560.0-1568.0	1489.0-1491.0	107675
60.25	Nov 819-818	Tin*	6770.0-6773.0	5885.0-5900.0	6820
5 SLR	Jul 832-860	Aluminum H*	1904.0-1905.0	1914.0-1915.0	463850
60.75	Nov 882-874	Nickel*	10808-10826	10820-10828	11874
60.25	Jul 4936				
64.00	SUGAR				

* (Cents per Troy oz.) * (¢ per cwt. approx.)

Mar 28 24-24.0	Oct 23 7-36.0	Live Pig Contract		Average livestock prices at representative markets on September 5		
LONDON GRAIN FUTURES		Mar	Open	Close	(/cwt)	
WHEAT class (1/2)	Vol 654	Sep	105.5	106.4		
Sr 111.50	Ja 118.40	Oct	106.3	108.5		
Sp 125.80	Ja 125.00	Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep	107.5	107.2		
		Oct	107.5	107.2		
		Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep	107.5	107.2		
		Oct	107.5	107.2		
		Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep	107.5	107.2		
		Oct	107.5	107.2		
		Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep	107.5	107.2		
		Oct	107.5	107.2		
		Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep	107.5	107.2		
		Oct	107.5	107.2		
		Nov	107.5	107.2		
		Dec	107.5	107.2		
		Jan	107.5	107.2		
		Feb	107.5	107.2		
		Mar	107.5	107.2		
		Apr	107.5	107.2		
		May	107.5	107.2		
		Jun	107.5	107.2		
		Jul	107.5	107.2		
		Aug	107.5	107.2		
		Sep</				

92.5	SOYABEAN	AMT Futures	Oct	unc	Scotland (%)	n/a	+0.9	+28.5
128.1	Oct 105.0-105.0		Nov	unc <th>Scotland (%)</th> <td>n/a</td> <td>130.2</td> <td>103.58</td>	Scotland (%)	n/a	130.2	103.58
143.3	Dec 114.0-12.5		Jan	unc <th>Scotland (%)</th> <td>n/a <td>+4.22</td> <td>+0.25</td> </td>	Scotland (%)	n/a <td>+4.22</td> <td>+0.25</td>	+4.22	+0.25
at 124					Vol Fig-53 Cattle-0			

* Estimated dead carcass weight

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money, subject to the usual conditions. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Abbey National (as)	Bank, Discount	
2	Hambleton	Bank, Discount	
3	Manxair	Travel, Air	
4	Herring Sea	Food	
5	Goat Farm	Food	
6	Euromark	Food	
7	Hardy O & G	Food	
8	Hilldown (as)	Food	
9	Messy Docks	Transport	
10	Robinson (as)	Food	
11	Uthmaniyah	Oil, Gas	
12	CRT Op	Food	
13	Sand Chan (as)	Bank, Discount	
14	AB Food (as)	Food	
15	GKN (as)	Industrial E-K	
16	Rangers Group	Bank, Discount	
17	Warburg SG	Bank, Discount	
18	Nina Foods (as)	Food	
19	Procter & Gamble	Food	
20	Asb & Lacy	Industrial A-D	
21	Black (Peter)	Industrial A-D	
22	Carlson Comm	Food	
23	Barley Law	Food	
24	Seaford	Food	
25	Multimedia Elect	Electrical	
26	Gerrard Nat	Bank, Discount	
27	Fisons (as)	Industrial E-K	
28	BTR (as)	Industrial A-D	
29	Br Telecom (as)	Electrical	
30	Hawker Siddeley (as)	Industrial E-K	
31	First Nat Fin	Bank, Discount	
32	Wainman	Bank, Discount	
33	Land Sec (as)	Property	
34	Blue Circle (as)	Food	
35	STC (as)	Electrical	
36	Providence	Bank, Discount	
37	VSEL	Industrial S-Z	
38	Lloyds (as)	Bank, Discount	
39	Burnham (as)	Oil, Gas	
40	Ry B. Soc (as)	Bank, Discount	
41	Isoton	Industrial E-K	
42	Geat	Food	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Two winners shared the £5,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday: Mrs Helen Howland-Price, of Warrington, Wiltshire, and Mr Jeremy Foster-Clark, of Lancing, West Sussex, each receive £2,500.

BRITISH FUNDS

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

UNDATED

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Useful gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin August 20. Dealings end tomorrow. (Contango day September 10. Settlement day September 17. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 28)

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

BREWERIES

High	Low	Open	Close	% Chg	% P/E
100	100	100	100	0	100
101	101	101	101	0	101
102	102	102	102	0	102
103	103	103	103	0	103
104	104	104	104	0	104
105	105	105	105	0	105
106	106	106	106	0	106
107	107	107	107	0	107
108	108	108	108	0	108
109	109	109	109	0	109
110	110	110	110	0	110
111	111	111	111	0	111
112	112	112	112	0	112
113	113	113	113	0	113
114	114	114	114	0	114
115	115	115	115	0	115
116	116	116	116	0	116
117	117	117	117	0	117
118	118	118	118	0	118
119	119	119	119	0	119
120	120	120	120	0	120

BUILDING, ROADS

130	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
131	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
132	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
133	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
134	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
135	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
136	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
137	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
138	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
139	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
140	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
141	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
142	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
143	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
144	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
145	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
146	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
147	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
148	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
149	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
150	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
151	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
152	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
153	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
154	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
155	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
156	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
157	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
158	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
159	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
160	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
161	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
162	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
163	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
164	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
165	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
166	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
167	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
168	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
169	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
170	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
171	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
172	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
173	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
174	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
175	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
176	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
177	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
178	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
179	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
180	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
181	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
182	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
183	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
184	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
185	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
186	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
187	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
188	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
189	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
190	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
191	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
192	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
193	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
194	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
195	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
196	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
197	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
198	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
199	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8
200	52	Alteryx	58	58	127	64	0.8

071-481 4481

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

Apply in writing, pictures and graphics.

IF YOU WANT the crème de la jobs, you'll need more than a little application.

Our references

As the largest European manufacturer of PCs and typewriters, Olivetti's resources have allowed us to develop the ETV 4000S. It's unique for a typewriter in that it can scan pictures and graphics to place within the text. Up to 7 different typefaces can be adjusted in size to make every document look professionally typeset. In fact the page you're now reading has been produced on the ETV 4000S.

Education

Although it performs all the functions of a WP and runs PC software, the



keyboard is just like any other typewriter, so you don't need a degree in computing. Packages are displayed on the sharpest of screens

and are operated by dedicated keys and a simple click of the mouse. You'll find using the mouse and keyboard together is much quicker.

Other interests

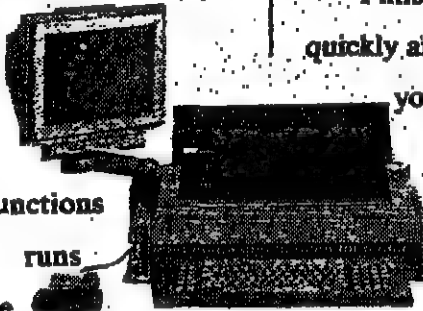
The ETV's packages also produce charts or graphs, present

figures and one acts as a sophisticated filofax system.

Press a button, and it will even print out dinner invitations to send to your senior clients.

Finished documents are quickly and silently produced next to you, with laser printer quality.

If you want your documents to mean business apply to Olivetti on 0800-444111.



Our force is your energy.

olivetti

OLIVETTI OFFICE, DEPARTMENT ETV, FREEPOST, MILTON KEYNES, MK15 9Y

SECRETARY/PA TO MARKETING DIRECTOR

Mayfair based company dealing with leading travel agents and tour operators. WP experience and shorthand essential along with good telephone skills, enthusiasm and a sense of humour. Good salary and benefits.

Apply in writing with full cv to Eric Campus, BCP, Tilney House, 5 Tilney Street, W1Y6JL.

SECRETARY/PA

To run office and provide Secretarial/PA support to small firm of Parliamentary Consultants based in Westminster. Busy and varied job with some client liaison. Good WP skills and telephone manner. Ability to copy under pressure essential. Salary negotiable.

Please write enclosing a CV to SUE GIBBS, GLC, 9 Old Queen Street, London SW1H 9JA.

SENIOR MAYFAIR SECRETARY/PA

c.£16,000 p.a.

The Managing Director of an expanding Mayfair property company is looking for an experienced Senior Secretary (£15-20k) with fast and accurate S/P, W/P, (70/110wpm) and typing with pride in presentation of work. You will be working in a very busy environment as a valued member of a team and be involved in many varied projects in addition to property, so that good office management ability, a time disciplined and an ability to react to your own initiative is essential. Excellent salary package including an annual bonus, LVP's and other substantial benefits. Please contact Patricia Webb - (071) 629 9933

SENIOR SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR SALARY £20,000

Highly professional, reliable person required by a small venture capital firm in the City. Must be well motivated and enjoy working by yourself. First class organisational skills, smart appearance, and a good telephone manner essential. Call: 071-480 6211

MERIDIAN

TEAM SECRETARY

to £15K + mge subs + bank benefits. Investment bank in EC2 need a Secretary (22+) with some shorthand and good WP skills. Banking or Finance experience essential. Rec Cons. 071 255 1555

MERIDIAN

PERSONNEL

£13,000 International company based in Hamworthy need a Secretary/Assistant with good WP skills to join their personnel team in a busy, varied admin role. Call Meridian. Rec Cons. 071-255 1555

PA/ADMINISTRATOR INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING c. £20,000

Our client, the President of a highly successful international publishing group close to Marble Arch, seeks a top calibre PA/Administrator Assistant with fluency in German and/or French to assist in setting up and managing the office of a new international division. An effective communicator with excellent organisational skills, you should be educated to degree standard and have a strong administrative track record; previous Senior Secretarial/Administrative Assistant experience gained in publishing, advertising or marketing would be advantageous. This will be a challenging and varied position requiring a proactive approach but the ability to act independently. A team player with commitment and a high level of energy and enthusiasm are key qualities sought. All basic office skills and word processing will be required. Age guide 28-40. For further details, please call 071-431 0479.

Private Secretary's Office Buckingham Palace

A vacancy has arisen in the Private Secretary's Office for a post working with archives involving filing, and the use of a computer/word processor. Good general knowledge and meticulous attention to detail are essential requirements in this responsible job dealing with the large volume of files for The Queen's reign. Another aspect of the post involves taking responsibility and coping with the day-to-day running of the office in the Chief Clerk's absence, for which a good all-round office background is helpful. The starting salary is £11,841.

Applications in writing please with cv to: The Chief Clerk, Private Secretary's Office, Buckingham Palace, London, SW1.

PA/ADMINISTRATOR £18,000

A fast-moving and dynamic marketing company seeks an enthusiastic individual to play a key role in co-ordinating the activities of a busy marketing team. This team is engaged in the promotion of a revolutionary new product. Aged from 25-34, you should have been trained in a marketing environment. French/German would be useful. Hours 8.30am - 4.30pm (flexible). A background within the healthcare sector would be an advantage. You should possess excellent shorthand, typing/administrative skills and the ability to cope well under pressure. If you feel you can make a significant contribution to a fast-growing company call today on 071-287 7788.

ANGELA MORTIMER

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

C'EST LA RENTREE!

LONDON - PARIS - BRUSSELS

College leavers and graduates, with or without work experience, with fluent French/German or Spanish and good typing/WP skills needed for Executive PA/Secretarial and administrative positions. Please call or write with CV to:

SEELA BURGESS INTERNATIONAL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS The Power House, Alpha Place 11 Rue de Solferino Road Street, London SW5 5ZJ Tel: 071 331 6931 Fax: 071 376 8240

11 Rue de Solferino Tel: 47 42 87 52 Fax: 42 66 92 96

ADMO SECRETARY

Required by expanding Property Co. A good word, rapid + accurate typing & W/P skills are essential. Age 24+. To £14,500

SENIOR SECRETARY

Apply for WP and PA position with a marketing or PR background. Experience with large international company advantageous. Harrogate, North Yorkshire. Age 24+. To £18,000

For details please ring 081 788 8081

CITY COVERING BUREAU PUTNEY

THE LANDOWNE CLUB, W1

Assistant Membership Secretary required for friendly, busy office. Must be well spoken. Knowledge of Typing essential. Salary £10,000. Telephone: Mrs Anne Goss 071-625 7286 (No Agency Fees)

MIDDLE EAST CONSULTANTS

Seek a Secretary with S/P, W/P and Arabic experience, with an interest in Middle East Development, to work in a modern, sophisticated office. Salary: £12,000 Tel: 071-924 2380

Mrs Secretary

EXECUTIVE PA

Working for Chief Director in major bank. Must have sound GC skills. 2 years exp in GC level/Finance. Well presented and reliable. Please call. Call us now on 071-287 0870 Miss Secretary Your Const.

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

ARABIC/English exp PA. No GC. City. £15,000. Language Skills 088-455 9925

PORTUGUESE/SPANISH £14,700: Youth deal with this City's Secretariat. Excellent salary on a daily basis as Secretary in office of three international companies. Good typing and WP exp needed. Please call. Call us now on 071-287 0870 Miss Secretary Your Const.

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

SECRETARY TO M.D. £16 - 17,000 + Benefits

A top U.S. financial house requires a flexible and capable person to join them as Secretary to the M.D. of Corporate Finance.

Working from beautiful offices, you will be using your excellent organisational and communication skills to liaise at all levels, arranging meetings and travel in an informal but professional atmosphere.

If you have some banking experience and a language (especially French or German) along with fast, accurate skills (100/60), call us now. We also have many other career opportunities for secretaries with similar skills within a range of salaries. Why not get in touch and find out more?



International Secretaries

174 New Road Street, London W1V 9W

071-491 7100

(Fax: 071 491 2875)

Recruitment Consultants



CALLING ALL BILINGUAL TEMPS LE MARCHE UNIQUE EST ARRIVE DEUTSCHE SPRACHIGE STELLUNGEN

BUSCAN TRABAJO EN LONDRES? STAI CERCANDO LAVORO A LONDRA?

We have many interesting bilingual, temporary secretarial openings near W1W, W1V, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5T, W5U, W5V, W5W, W5X, W5Y, W5Z, W6A, W6B, W6C, W6D, W6E, W6F, W6G, W6H, W6J, W6K, W6L, W6M, W6N, W6P, W6Q, W6R, W6S, W6T, W6U, W6V, W6W, W6X, W6Y, W6Z, W7A, W7B, W7C, W7D, W7E, W7F, W7G, W7H, W7J, W7K, W7L, W7M, W7N, W7P, W7Q, W7R, W7S, W7T, W7U, W7V, W7W, W7X, W7Y, W7Z, W8A, W8B, W8C, W8D, W8E, W8F, W8G, W8H, W8J, W8K, W8L, W8M, W8N, W8P, W8Q, W8R, W8S, W8T, W8U, W8V, W8W, W8X, W8Y, W8Z, W9A, W9B, W9C, W9D, W9E, W9F, W9G, W9H, W9J, W9K, W9L, W9M, W9N, W9P, W9Q, W9R, W9S, W9T, W9U, W9V, W9W, W9X, W9Y, W9Z, W0A, W0B, W0C, W0D, W0E, W0F, W0G, W0H, W0J, W0K, W0L, W0M, W0N, W0P, W0Q, W0R, W0S, W0T, W0U, W0V, W0W, W0X, W0Y, W0Z, W1A, W1B, W1C, W1D, W1E, W1F, W1G, W1H, W1J, W1K, W1L, W1M, W1N, W1P, W1Q, W1R, W1S, W1T, W1U, W1V, W1W, W1X, W1Y, W1Z, W2A, W2B, W2C, W2D, W2E, W2F, W2G, W2H, W2J, W2K, W2L, W2M, W2N, W2P, W2Q, W2R, W2S, W2T, W2U, W2V, W2W, W2X, W2Y, W2Z, W3A, W3B, W3C, W3D, W3E, W3F, W3G, W3H, W3J, W3K, W3L, W3M, W3N, W3P, W3Q, W3R, W3S, W3T, W3U, W3V, W3W, W3X, W3Y, W3Z, W4A, W4B, W4C, W4D, W4E, W4F, W4G, W4H, W4J, W4K, W4L, W4M, W4N, W4P, W4Q, W4R, W4S, W4T, W4U, W4V, W4W, W4X, W4Y, W4Z, W5A, W5B, W5C, W5D, W5E, W5F, W5G, W5H, W5J, W5K, W5L, W5M, W5N, W5P, W5Q, W5R, W5S, W5

Negligent to regain winning thread

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

NOW that she is back to somewhere near her best, Negligent, from Barry Hills' superbly-run Wiltshire Stakes, should prove equal to winning the Reference Point Strenuous Stakes at York today.

A variety of nagging setbacks have restricted her to two races this season. Considering everything, her third place in the 1,000 Guineas in the spring was a thoroughly good performance because she had not experienced the trouble-free run-up to the classic that both Salabail and Heart Of Joy, the eventual first and second, had enjoyed.

Negligent was not seen

until she contested the Juddmonte International Stakes on today's track last month when she was not disgraced in finishing seventh behind the likes of In The Groove and Elmsmarr.

Useful though today's opposition is, it is not nearly as strong as that, Maximilian and Gharran being arguably the best of them at the weights.

At Tonsious looked a filly

of infinite promise when winning her first two races last year but she more than met her match when she encountered Negligent in the Rockfells Stakes at Newmarket in the autumn and has not been seen since.

Read To The Isle (4.40)

looks a possible second win-

ner for Hills on the Kemmerley this afternoon following that promising initial run behind Fennel at Newmarket.

However, Demonstrable and Bold Ambition, the other members of the four-strong raiding party from Manton, seem likely to be put in their place by Barrymore (2.35) and Secret Society (3.40) respectively.

Barrymore, my choice for

the Co-Racing in Yorkshire Maiden Stakes, is long overdue a win, having finished second in all his races so far.

Well that Bold Ambition

should go in the Sunlife of Canada Garrowby Limited Handicap, I still doubt him being able to concede a stone

to Secret Society, who was a creditable fourth in the race won by Comstock on the last day of the Ebor meeting.

Victory for Secret Society would draw attention to Jamie's chance of winning the Salisbury Festival Handicap on the Wiltshire track later in the afternoon as Jamie finished a length in front of Secret Society in that York race.

However, I just prefer Torsello, who will appreciate this day's distance having been outstayed by Secret Wars and Shambo over 1½ miles at Goodwood last time.

Torsello is taken to become

the middle leg of a treble for Ray Cochrane, a treble to be triggered off by Grand Prix

Balding has Timeless Times is thwarted in tilt at outright record

US plan for leading hurdlers

By RICHARD EVANS

MORLEY Street and Forest Sun, two of Toby Balding's top jockeys, are set to make their debuts on the Flat in preparation for an autumn raid in the United States.

The Fyfield trainer has pencilled in an amateur riders' race at Ayr's western meeting in two weeks' time and a two-mile conditions race at Goodwood early in October for his two stable stars.

Although Morley Street and Forest Sun won five National Hunt flat races numbers at the time, they have been successful in their careers, neither has run under Flat rules.

Morley Street, winner of the Sandeman Aintree Hurdle, is being sent to the Breders' Cup Chase at Belmont on October 20 while Forest Sun, winner of the Supreme Novices' Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival, will travel over for the first time in the hands of Pat Eddery.

Balding outlined these plans

the day after British Thoroughbred Racing and Breeding Club (BTRB) met in London. He is joint managing director, with accumulated debts of almost £3 million.

BTRB was the first members'

club offering racehorse ownership to the public. It is a relatively low cost and Balding believes that a pioneer was partly responsible for its financial difficulties.

"He hasn't got a deal of class

or I'd have tried to win a group race with him," said O'Gorman. "But he's got a big heart and he's very sound. He's also very versatile."

"I'm in no hurry with him

and we'll find a race where we have to service 5,000 shareholders with three 3,000 lost interest within 18 months. We were servicing them with no sort of loss."

He agreed to keep the concept of BTRB alive, although

the public company is likely to be wound up next September. A creditors' meeting agreed that Balding and his partner, Trevor Bishop, should buy assets of BTRB, including the club's telephone hotline.

Twelve left in the Curragh

David Elsworth's Ziguara and Alex Scott's Jamelety comprise the potential English challenge for the group one Moylagh Stud Stakes at the Curragh on Sunday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

Ide Of Glass, who won

impressively at Phoenix Park on Sunday, also figures among the 12 four-day runners but her trainer, John Oxx, waits until tomorrow morning before deciding whether to run.

The group three Mount Cote

Stud EBF Matron Stakes at Doncaster is another highly-declared event, with four runners but her fourth race of the year, two furlongs from home George Duffield was in trouble as

By MICHAEL SEELY
RACING CORRESPONDENT

TIMELESS Times' blinkered head was bloody but unbowed after Bill O'Gorman's two-year-old had finished third to Jennie's Gem in the Best Buy Products Stakes at York yesterday.

"The five furlongs was a bit

too sharp for him on a flat track," said the trainer after Tuesday's Postscript scorer had failed to record his seventeenth victory and become the winning-most two-year-old in British racing history.

Staying on when the race was

over and it won't have done him any harm."

Timeless Times, a well

backed 7-2 chance, broke smartly but was soon being outpaced by five horses in front of him at halfway.

Sharpshooter, the even-money

favourite, weakened entering the last furlong and Jennie's Gem, having made all the running in the hands of Pat Eddery, kept on strongly to beat Food Of Love by 1½ lengths.

Timeless Times had by now

found his stride and took third place, only a length behind the runner-up. Despite having won 16 races and been placed four times in his 20 outings, Timeless Times still looks as fresh as

Corals issued by a length

options over six furlongs, the colt's best distance, are now becoming limited.

"He hasn't got a deal of class

or I'd have tried to win a group race with him," said O'Gorman. "But he's got a big heart and he's very sound. He's also very versatile."

"I'm in no hurry with him

and we'll find a race where we have to service 5,000 shareholders with three 3,000 lost interest within 18 months. We were servicing them with no sort of loss."

He agreed to keep the concept of BTRB alive, although

the public company is likely to be wound up next September. A creditors' meeting agreed that Balding and his partner, Trevor Bishop, should buy assets of BTRB, including the club's telephone hotline.

Twelve left in the Curragh

David Elsworth's Ziguara and Alex Scott's Jamelety comprise the potential English challenge for the group one Moylagh Stud Stakes at the Curragh on Sunday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

Ide Of Glass, who won

impressively at Phoenix Park on Sunday, also figures among the 12 four-day runners but her trainer, John Oxx, waits until tomorrow morning before deciding whether to run.

The group three Mount Cote

Stud EBF Matron Stakes at Doncaster is another highly-declared event, with four runners but her fourth race of the year, two furlongs from home George Duffield was in trouble as



O'Gorman far from disappointed with York run

Highflying stormed clear to beat Local Derby by three lengths.

Alan Harrison's gelding has

now won five of his last seven starts and has the Bogsie Cup at Ayr and the William Hill November Handicap as possible targets.

The six-furlong Lawrence

Batley Handicap was won by Masmun, whom John Reid brought sweeping down on the leaders in the last furlong to beat Bertie Wooster by a length.

This convincing victory com-

pensated Roland O'Sullivan and connections for their disappointment in the Stewards' Cup, where the five-year-old was backed from 25-1 to 12-1 before finishing fourth to Knight Of Mercy.

Bertie Wooster ran a fine trial

for Scotland's richest handicap and his price has been cut from 25-1 to 16-1 by Ladbrokes, the sponsors, who have Knight Of Mercy and Please Believe Me as their joint favourites at 14-1.

Corals issued by a length

options over six furlongs, the colt's best distance, are now becoming limited.

"He hasn't got a deal of class

or I'd have tried to win a group race with him," said O'Gorman. "But he's got a big heart and he's very sound. He's also very versatile."

"I'm in no hurry with him

and we'll find a race where we have to service 5,000 shareholders with three 3,000 lost interest within 18 months. We were servicing them with no sort of loss."

He agreed to keep the concept of BTRB alive, although

the public company is likely to be wound up next September. A creditors' meeting agreed that Balding and his partner, Trevor Bishop, should buy assets of BTRB, including the club's telephone hotline.

Twelve left in the Curragh

David Elsworth's Ziguara and Alex Scott's Jamelety comprise the potential English challenge for the group one Moylagh Stud Stakes at the Curragh on Sunday (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

Ide Of Glass, who won

impressively at Phoenix Park on Sunday, also figures among the 12 four-day runners but her trainer, John Oxx, waits until tomorrow morning before deciding whether to run.

The group three Mount Cote

Stud EBF Matron Stakes at Doncaster is another highly-declared event, with four runners but her fourth race of the year, two furlongs from home George Duffield was in trouble as

chestnut with four white feet

silenced his critics with victories in the Derby, Irish Derby and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

Narrow triumph over Hot

Grove at Epsom and Orange Bay at Ascot marked him down as one of the bravest big-race winners of his era.

As a stallion, his European

successes have included Musical Bliss (1,000 Guineas), L'Emigrant (French 2,000 Guineas), Melodist (Irish Oaks), Silver

Fling and Chicaria.

However, Lester Piggott re-

mained loyal to the Northern Dancer colt and the flashy

chestnut with four white feet

silenced his critics with victories in the Derby, Irish Derby and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

Narrow triumph over Hot

Grove at Epsom and Orange Bay at Ascot marked him down as one of the bravest big-race winners of his era.

As a stallion, his European

successes have included Musical Bliss (1,000 Guineas), L'Emigrant (French 2,000 Guineas), Melodist (Irish Oaks), Silver

Fling and Chicaria.

However, Lester Piggott re-

mained loyal to the Northern Dancer colt and the flashy

chestnut with four white feet

silenced his critics with victories in the Derby, Irish Derby and King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

Narrow triumph over Hot

Grove at Epsom and Orange Bay at Ascot marked him down as one of the bravest big-race winners of his era.

As a stallion, his European

successes have included Musical Bliss (1,000 Guineas), L'Emigrant (French 2,000 Guineas), Melodist (Irish Oaks), Silver

Fling and Chicaria.

However, Lester Piggott re-

mained loyal to the Northern Dancer colt and the flashy

YORK Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 Dunkington.
2.35 Barrymore.
3.10 Negligent.
3.40 Secret Society.
4.10 Swift Star.
4.40 Road To The Isle.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 Foolish Touch.
2.35 Barrymore.
3.10 Maximilian.
3.40 Distinct Native.
4.10 Crystal Heights.
4.40 Negligent.

By Michael Seely

3.10 Negligent. 3.40 BOLD AMBITION (nap). 4.40 Marja.

Going: good to firm Draw: 51-61, low numbers best SIS

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 113 (13) 44444 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 114 (14) 33333 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 115 (15) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 116 (16) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 117 (17) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 118 (18) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12.

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 113 (13) 44444 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 114 (14) 33333 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 115 (15) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 116 (16) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 117 (17) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 118 (18) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12.

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 113 (13) 44444 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 114 (14) 33333 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 115 (15) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 116 (16) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 117 (17) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 118 (18) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12.

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 113 (13) 44444 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 114 (14) 33333 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 115 (15) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 116 (16) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 117 (17) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 118 (18) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12.

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 113 (13) 44444 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 114 (14) 33333 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 115 (15) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 116 (16) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 117 (17) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 118 (18) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12.

101 QUINTIN GILBY SILVER TROPHY (Handicap: 25.12.77) (18 runners)

101 (1) 116222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 102 (2) 55555 GENTLE HERO 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 103 (3) 44444 DUCKINGTON 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 104 (4) 33333 LUNA 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 105 (5) 22222 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 106 (6) 11111 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 107 (7) 00000 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 108 (8) 99999 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 109 (9) 88888 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 110 (10) 77777 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 111 (11) 66666 AMBROSE 10 (J.P. O'Brien) M. Naughton 4-0-12. 112 (12) 55555 AMBROSE

